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KENT STATE

MAGAZINE

Legacy of Leadership

**Cartwright steps down
after 15 years of changing
lives and making ideas work**

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Cartwright steps down after 15 years of changing lives and making ideas work

A Look Back, A Look Ahead

Carol A. Cartwright, President



Kent State President Carol A. Cartwright presents alumna Roe Green, M.A. '80, with a custom-made "hard hat" for use when Green visits the School of Theatre and Dance to observe construction on the estimated \$12 million, 70,000-square-foot project to unite theatre and dance under one roof for the first time since the two programs merged in 1994. The Roe Green Foundation pledged \$6.5 million in capital support for the project. (See story on page 20.)

On the cover:

The photo mosaic captures some of the many accomplishments of President Carol A. Cartwright's 15 years at Kent State University.

Illustration by Nick Moore, '90

This issue of *Kent State Magazine* is special for me and for the university.

As most of you know, I have announced my retirement as Kent State president. At such a time, we naturally look back over the last 15 years, to see how far we have come together, as a university and as a force for dynamic change and service in our region. The accomplishments of Kent State alumni are a large part of that story.

This message is not so much a farewell as an acknowledgement of transition. As we look back, we must also look ahead. To put that in context: The freshmen who enter our university this fall will make up the Class of 2010, Kent State's centennial year.

An institution at the threshold of its second century should examine the legacy of its leader, if for no other reason than to provide a snapshot of a certain point in history. One continuing theme is change.

My 15 years as president of Kent State coincided with a time of great change in the university, in Ohio and in the nation. We can all be proud of how the university managed change, anticipated it, met it head on and grew stronger as a result of strategic planning and strategic action.

Our shared accomplishments are too numerous to mention here. Perhaps the greatest are that we served our students and the public, and we positioned the university to succeed in the 21st century.

It is a different world

today than when I arrived at Kent State. Some challenges remain the same, however. Literally the day I began work here in 1991 the state announced a devastating round of budget cuts to public higher education. That cycle is replaying today, and I suspect that when my successor looks back on his or her legacy, change also will be a major theme.

What I bequeath that successor, however, is not a dismal picture, but a university with positive momentum, an institution that will continue to be essential to the life of our region and our nation. I expect the next president to build on our work and take Kent State to even greater heights.

I am proud to share the institutional legacy of Kent State's century of service. Let me emphasize that our graduates are the university's most important assets.

Kent State's alumni enrich our state and nation with their economic, cultural and creative contributions. Your influence is global, and you carry a part of Kent State with you wherever you go.

Kent State's next 100 years will be equally demanding and equally rewarding. Thank you for your friendship during my tenure here. Together we have made a positive difference in countless lives. I urge your continued support for our university and for all of public higher education. 🌞

KENT STATE

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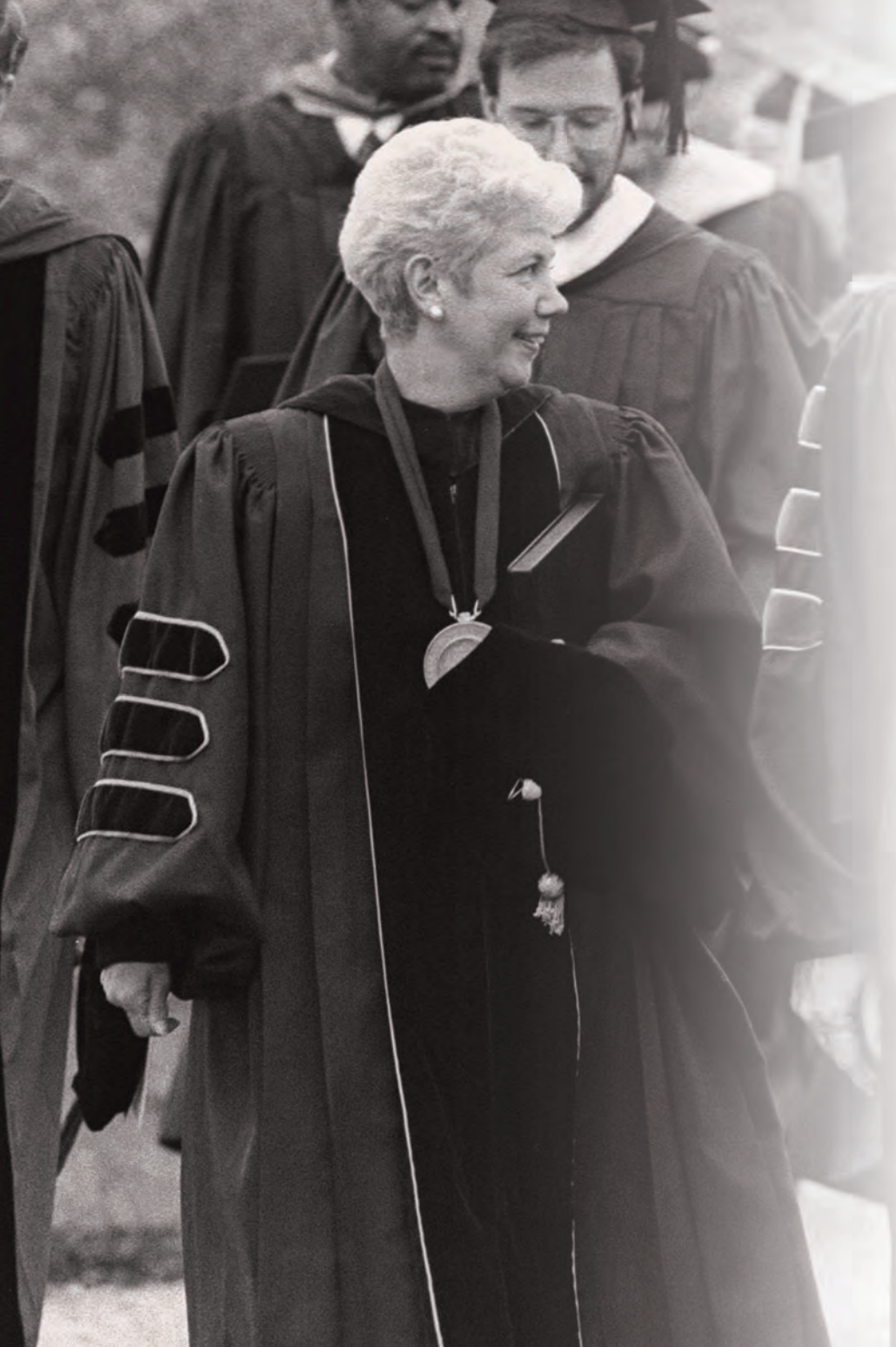
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GREAT LAKES PUBLISHING



In more than 15 years as president, Dr. Carol A. Cartwright has left an indelible mark on Kent State University, Northeast Ohio and the higher education community. With characteristic vision and vigor, she led Kent State to new heights of excellence and innovation and earned wide respect as one of the nation's most thoughtful authorities on public higher education. In the process, Dr. Cartwright has touched countless lives, as evidenced by the following cross-section of comments from campus community members, state and national leaders and other colleagues-turned-fans.



Dr. Carol A. Cartwright:
Leadership Landmarks



1991

Inaugurated as Kent State's 10th president; made history as the first woman president of a state university in Ohio.

Joined the Akron Regional Development Board, the Akron Roundtable and the Greater Cleveland Roundtable to advance Kent State's commitment to regional development.

Founders Scholars initiative created as part of President Cartwright's inauguration; the most successful scholarship program in university history has received more than \$12 million in gifts and pledges and has attracted more than 500 outstanding students, most from Ohio.

Legacy of Leadership

Cartwright steps down after 15 years of changing lives and making ideas work.

E. Gordon Gee
Chancellor, Vanderbilt University

During my time as president of Ohio State, I found Carol Cartwright to be one of the most effective advocates for higher education in the state of Ohio. I admired her tenacity, her ability to articulate issues, and her persuasive, common-sense approach to making the case for higher education. She was passionate about Kent, but she was also committed to a powerful partnership with the other institutions in the state, which benefited both Kent and Ohio. She was a great leader at Kent and will be missed by all of us in higher education.

Dr. Jerry Sue Thornton
President, Cuyahoga Community College

Dr. Carol Cartwright epitomizes what poet Maya Angelou terms a “phenomenal woman.” She leads, inspires, motivates, educates and dreams. Her dreams for Kent State University have transformed it into a vibrant, welcoming environment where all students can achieve academic success. Because of her commitment to collaborations and partnerships that enhance student opportunities, she has ensured ease of matriculation for Cuyahoga Community College transfer students. We are grateful to her for supporting the dreams of our students.

Kimberly L. Thompson
*Kent State University
Board of Trustees
Undergraduate Student
Trustee, 2004-06*

As a student trustee, I take particular notice of Dr. Cartwright’s interaction with the student body. I am continually impressed by her respect for students. She not only takes our suggestions — she also solicits our input. I have seen her walk through Risman Plaza or the Student Center and take the time to greet students as they pass. Further, Dr. Cartwright is committed to the long-term success of students, not just producing degrees.

Dr. Philip Dubois
*Chancellor,
University of North
Carolina at Charlotte*

I was privileged to work for Carol the years she served as vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of California at Davis. My fondest recollection of those years was that, although she was my boss, we just plain had fun. And, as my mentor, she made sure that when I wanted to be a provost, I was ready. Like many who learned under Carol’s watchful eye, I left UC Davis “Cartwright-certified.”



1992

Created the university-wide Diversity Planning Committee to find new strategies for increasing diversity across Kent State’s learning environment.

Formed the University Priorities and Budget Advisory Committee to open the budget process to the university community and include more voices in priority setting.

Announced to the university community that she had breast cancer. Returned to work five days after surgery and became active advocate for cancer-prevention education.

Elected to American Council on Education Board of Directors

1993

Initiated Kent State’s first university-wide strategic-planning process.

Elected chair of the American Association of Higher Education, the nation’s leading independent association dedicated to improving the quality of higher education.

1994

Created the Division of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs, a vice presidential division devoted to addressing student needs.

Formed the university-wide Task Force on Violence to take a proactive approach to addressing violence on campuses and in society.

Dr. Sidney A. Ribeau
*President, Bowling Green
 State University*

BGSU and Kent State were founded simultaneously, and the kinship between the universities is historic. Carol Cartwright has been a trailblazer in higher education and a leader to emulate. She is the ideal statesperson — always diplomatic and rational. As a colleague in the Mid-American Conference, the Inter-University Council of Presidents and my predecessor on the NCAA Board of Directors, she has provided strong leadership and encouraged all of us to strive for excellence.



1994

Appointed co-chair of the Ohio Technology in Education Steering Committee, which developed Ohio's master plan for educational technology.

1995

Named chair of the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges Commission on Outreach and Technology Transfer.

1996

Inducted into the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame in her first year of eligibility.

1997

Appointed to the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Board of Directors; remained on NCAA Board until 2005, serving the last two years as chair of the executive committee.

Invited to join the Board of Directors of the National First Ladies' Library.

Jeanette Grasselli Brown
Ohio Board of Regents

President Carol Cartwright has been a truly visionary leader of higher education — highly respected not only in Ohio but internationally. She served with distinction as the chair of the Inter-University Council of Presidents of all the public universities in Ohio and has been a strong and consistent voice for the importance of higher education to Ohio's economy. She has been a champion of research at Kent State, and has been deeply involved in both the Akron/Canton and Cleveland regions to enhance economic development and collaborations in Northeastern Ohio.

She also loves to listen to husband Phil's jazz combo — and she has a wicked sense of humor, always delivered with a ladylike chuckle! Carol has been a great president and she is a wonderful person. We'll miss her.

**D. Max, '59, and
Cecile M., '58, Draime**

We wish to acknowledge Carol's dedicated work, vision and perseverance, which have produced massive amounts of success for the university. We were extremely fortunate to have met Carol and Phil 13 years ago at their house for a lovely dinner. We exchanged polite conversation and learned we both had taught elementary education. I felt we must have a lot in common. Not exactly! Carol became the ultimate dream university president, for which we owe much thanks. Carol Cartwright has produced lasting effects that will be felt for many years and will continue to enrich the university. This is why we support Kent State so easily. Carol created a future for the students of tomorrow.

Steele Nowlin, '99
*Former Kent State
University Founders
Scholar; Department of
English, Pennsylvania State
University*

It's one thing to understand a president's vision for a university, but another thing altogether to experience that vision firsthand. Dr. Cartwright's devotion to Kent State and to improving the lives of its students hits home for me. As the first recipient of the Founders Scholarship she donated to the program, I got the chance to understand in a real, direct way the service and commitment from which so many Kent State students have benefited.

Dr. Thomas R. Hensley
*Emeritus Professor of
Political Science,
Kent State University*

President Carol Cartwright has given effective and impressive leadership to Kent State University. She had huge footsteps to fill when she replaced former Kent State President Michael Schwartz, but she succeeded in doing so. In my opinion, Kent State has become a much stronger institution since President Cartwright took office. One example is her leadership in creating an annual symposium on democracy associated with the annual May 4 remembrances. I hope her successor can continue the tradition of effective leadership that she has established. It will be quite a challenge to follow her.



1998

Launched Kent State's second strategic-planning process to prepare for the 21st century.
Joined the Musical Arts Association of Cleveland Board of Directors.

1999

Appointed to the Board of Trustees of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, a component of the Smithsonian Institution that fosters scholarship and dialogue in international relations.
Named to the national steering committee of the America Reads*America Counts education initiative.

2000

Named to the reconvened Knight Commission on Intercollegiate Athletics, a blue-ribbon panel to assess the state of American college athletics.
Named by *Crain's Cleveland Business* as one of the 20 most influential women in Northeast Ohio.

Spearheaded the establishment of Kent State's annual Symposium on Democracy.



David E. Dix
*Publisher, Record-Courier;
 Kent State University
 Trustee, 1976-85*

President Cartwright, maybe the most capable of all Kent State presidents, leaves the university stronger after 15 years at the helm. I've never worked with a president any more ambitious or with any higher aspirations for Kent State University. She is blessed with incredible energy reserves. Students are a source for them, I believe. Intelligent, aspiring young people rejuvenate her. They make her laugh and, momentarily, relax. In the intensely competitive corporate atmosphere of modern-day university life, it's a useful reminder of the true and noble mission that both education and great educators continue to hold high.

Myles Brand
*President,
 National Collegiate
 Athletic Association*

It has been my great fortune to be able to work with President Carol Cartwright in intercollegiate athletics. She is truly a national leader. As chair of the NCAA Executive Committee, as a member of the Knight Commission and in many other capacities, Carol has championed student-athlete academic success. Clearly she wants Kent State to be highly competitive, but at the same time she wants athletics to be conducted with integrity and with the best interests of student-athletes in the forefront.

Lee Hamilton
*Director,
 Woodrow Wilson
 International Center
 for Scholars*

Carol Cartwright joined the board of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in 1999, the same year that I became director, and her friendship and counsel have been invaluable. In particular, Carol has been an extraordinary chairwoman of our Fellowship Committee, which is charged with the essential responsibility of selecting the incoming class of scholars who are the center's lifeblood. So much of the excellent research, writing and programming at the center can be attributed to Carol's leadership, integrity, intellect and discerning eye.

It has been a privilege to know and work with Carol Cartwright. She has made the Wilson Center a more successful institution and a better place, just as she has made her mark at Kent State. To put it simply, she is a woman who has made a difference.

Bob Taft
Governor of Ohio

Carol Cartwright has been an exceptionally effective leader for Kent State University. Growing student enrollment and an expanding research program are just two of her accomplishments. She helped guide Kent State University to a position of national leadership in the field of liquid crystals and promoted the formation of start-up companies based on innovative research at the university. Carol is a leader among her peers across the state, and I especially appreciate her strong contributions as a member of the Governor's Commission on Higher Education and the Economy.



2001

Recommended Board of Trustees' establishment of Kent State's innovative College of Communications and Information

Celebrated 10th anniversary as Kent State president.

2002

Established a select group of Kent State University Distinguished Professors to recognize exceptional faculty achievement.

2003

Led completion of the university's first comprehensive fund-raising campaign, exceeding the \$100 million goal.

Appointed to Ohio Gov. Bob Taft's prestigious Commission on Higher Education and the Economy. Named the next year to the Ohio Business Development Coalition.

Named to a three-year term on the American Council of Education Commission on Women in Higher Education.

Selected to serve as chair of the executive committee of the National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I Board of Directors, 2003-05.

Lynne Dragomier, '72
*Vice President, Public
 Relations and Marketing,
 Mercy Medical Center,
 Canton; Kent State
 University Trustee,
 1997-2005*

As I ponder President Cartwright's immense, positive impact on Kent State University and higher education, I realize that it is her power of persuasion that makes her so effective. Her ability to build support springs from her total commitment and her deep understanding of the complexities, challenges and opportunities inherent to higher education, and specifically Kent State University. I will never forget the first time I received a phone call from her, asking me to serve my alma mater in a volunteer role — the first of many calls over the years. What is so amazing is that she was making those one-on-one contacts with people all day long and into the night, explaining a challenge, sharing good news, asking for help — whatever it took for the good of Kent State, higher education and the people they serve.



2004

Amid eight straight years of record enrollment growth, the university opened the last of six state-of-the-art residence halls, part of a long-range plan to replace or renovate all Kent Campus residence facilities.

Led the third-generation Strategic Plan, which emphasizes a focus on those served by the university.

Created Division of Regional Development to focus more closely on Northeast Ohio's economic needs.

Led creation of an International Affairs Advisory Council to coordinate Kent State's many global programs, activities and historic international partnerships.

Kent State received its second, 10-year term of unconditional accreditation from the NCAA, adding to the national respect for the president's values-driven approach to athletics.

Named to the National Public Radio Board of Directors.

2005

Honored with the 2005 Award of the Newcomen Society of the United States.

Announced retirement as president of Kent State.

For more information about Carol A. Cartwright's legacy at Kent State, visit www.kent.edu/magazine.



WHAT'S REALLY ON YOUR MIND?

Research aims to improve communication between adolescents and parents

By Lisa Lambert, M.A. '05

Sex, drugs, tobacco and alcohol use. Parents of adolescent children know they have to cover their bases when it comes to communicating about these heavy topics. But a young person's life involves more than illegal substances and risky behavior. Do parents know what their children are thinking, what they really want to talk about?

"We [adults] don't often stop and listen to kids to see what they're thinking about; we just assume we know," says Dr. Rhonda Richardson, Kent State associate professor of human development and family studies.

Richardson set out to learn what young adolescents — arguably the most misunderstood age group on the developmental spectrum, notorious for their seemingly foreign behavior — have on their minds.

In a survey of more than 1,100 Northeast Ohio adolescents ages 10 to 15, Richardson offered the children anonymity in exchange for candor when she inquired, "If you could ask your mom or dad one question, and know that you'd get an honest answer, what question would you ask?"

The survey participants, drawn from 14 school districts ranging from urban to rural, returned some surprising responses.

"Forty-four percent of the responses were questions pertaining to family relationships," Richardson says. They included: Do you think I'm important? Do you really love me? Why don't you have more time for me? Why do you blame me for everything?

Only 15 percent of the respondents asked for information about "sensitive

Meaningful communication between parents and their children — or lack thereof — has a significant impact on the development of adolescents into healthy, well-adjusted adults.

subjects" such as sex and pregnancy or drugs and alcohol. A similar percentage of children asked questions directed toward learning more about their parent, such as "What was it like when you were little?" and "What is the most important thing to you?"

Making sense of their relationships with their parents was the most salient issue for many youngsters, according to the study.

"Because parent-child relationships are in a state of flux during early adolescence,

the questions the young adolescents posed suggest that they recognize and are trying to make sense of the shifts in familial relationships," Richardson says.

Richardson sees the survey results as a call to action, because many of the responses were questions parents wouldn't think to discuss without prompting. "Clearly, we need to get the dialogue going between young adolescents and their parents," she says.

The dialogue, or lack thereof, is critical

Photo illustration by Bob Christy, '95





Rhonda Richardson, associate professor, human development and family studies, researches communication issues between adolescents and their parents.

to the development of adolescents into healthy, well-adjusted adults, she adds. "Caring adults are vitally important to support and guide adolescents through the changes and decisions they face," Richardson says.

An adult's ability to be receptive to the questions and concerns of adolescents may depend upon how well he or she understands this developmental period.

Richardson says that while research indicates most adolescents want a warm, close relationship with their parents, during this period of their lives parents and children begin to spend less time together and exhibit less physical affection toward one another — changes that can hinder open communication.

Cynthia Peterson, an instructor at Kent State Salem and mother of a 12-year-old daughter and 13-year-old son, has noticed subtle changes in her relationship with her children.

"I feel we've always had open communication, but their increasing desire for privacy has become apparent," she says. "They don't seem interested in talking about some of the things I would like to communicate with them about, and they don't respond well to probing."

Peterson says she has adjusted to meet the needs of her children. By taking cues from their communication and using "teachable moments," or situations that involve friends or figures in popular culture, she conveys important messages to her children without lecturing to them.

"You also have to be available when your kids want to talk," says Peterson. "We didn't get a DVD player in our van because teachable moments tend to arise in the

car, where the kids are a captive audience. Immediately after school and at the dinner table seem to be times when they're more likely to talk, too."

"Adolescents thrive in an environment in which parents are willing to engage in meaningful, open communication and adjust specific processes of communication in accordance with developmental needs," Richardson says.

Because parents often don't know how to interpret developmental changes in their children and tend to "back off" during the early adolescent years, Richardson's goal is to educate parents and teachers about early adolescent development and promote communication between parents and their young teens.

First and foremost, Richardson says, in order to be meaningful, communication must address topics of interest to the youth. This requires parents to know those topics, a neglected frontier in parent-child communication research.


"There are numerous publications designed to assist parents in communicating with their youngsters," Richardson says, "but typically these are developed by adults and based on adults' assumptions about what parents should talk about with their children."

Richardson says adolescents could be a valuable resource, but their perspectives have been ignored by authors. Meanwhile, as children enter the rough waters of puberty, parents long for the proverbial instruction manual.

From the survey results, Richardson has designed methods parents can use to open channels of communication with their young

adolescents. She hopes to offer her insights to parents some time later this year — good news to Peterson, who, like most parents, wants to navigate successfully through this difficult developmental stage.

"I think it's inevitable that the amount of influence we as parents have on them is decreasing, and the amount of influence friends, media and culture have is increasing," she says. "My concern is that we've given them the best base for their entry into adulthood."

For more information about parent-child communication, contact Richardson at rrichard@kent.edu or 330-672-2026. For more information about Richardson and her research interests, visit www.kent.edu/magazine. 

Online Exclusives

What's "Normal"?

Parents often wonder what behaviors are considered "normal" as they watch their children mature. Learning about developmental stages will help parents maintain open communication and better understand their children's behavior. Visit www.kent.edu/magazine for a link to expert guidance on what to expect during the early adolescent years.

The Power of Positive Parenting

One of the best resources for parents dealing with a child's behavioral problems, says Dr. Beth Wildman, Kent State professor of psychology, is a parenting program called Triple P, or "Positive Parenting Program." Triple P teaches parenting practices that are helpful for everyday interactions with children and especially for parents of children with behavioral issues. Read more at www.kent.edu/magazine.



EARTH to America

Science fellows bring learning full circle

By Lisa Lambert, M.A. '05
Photo by Bob Christy, '95



Geology doctoral candidate B.J. Arnold teaches a science class at Alliance Middle School in Alliance, Ohio.

Some say the imagination and passion that led Americans to land on the moon is gone. Media and government reports warn of the United States losing its scientific and innovative edge, pointing to waning interest in science careers and declining academic test scores as evidence of a potentially debilitating national problem.

One effort to reverse this trend pairs Kent State undergraduate and graduate students with K-12 teachers to develop innovative and engaging earth science curriculum materials.

"If you don't stimulate interest in science at an early age, you're not going to get children interested later on," says Sonia Ortega, director of the Graduate Teaching Fellows in K-12 Education (GK-12) program at the National Science Foundation (NSF). "Today's students are the country's future scientists, and it's important for them to have role models."

A team of Kent State geography and geology faculty — led by Dr. Mandy Munro-Stasiuk, associate professor of geography, and co-principle investigators Dr. Scott Sheridan, associate professor of geography; Dr. Joseph Ortiz, associate professor of geology; Dr. Donna Witter, senior research fellow in geology; and Nancy BakerCazan, science education coordinator at Stark County Educational Service Center

— received an NSF grant for nearly \$2 million to implement a "Graduate Teaching Fellows in K-12 Education" program on the Kent Campus.

Although K-12 teachers and students receive great benefits from this program, the direct beneficiaries are the graduate fellows who receive funding to bring science and cutting-edge research to middle- and high-school classrooms. In addition to learning to communicate science to nonscientists, fellows in this program improve their teaching ability and gain additional skills that will prepare them for the workforce once they graduate.

Building on an existing partnership with the Stark County Educational Service Center, the Kent State project will impact 36 middle- and high-school science teachers, along with nearly 5,000 students in their classes, to improve the quality of earth science education in 17 Stark County school districts.

Ortiz says fewer than nine states in the country require high school students to take an earth science class. "There's a tremendous need to educate people about how our planet works," he says. "Many of the teachers delivering this content were trained in one of the basic sciences, but they don't have as much training in earth science, which is an integrative field."

Ortega agrees. "Teachers in the nation's K-12 schools often are not well-prepared to teach math and science," she says. The Kent State program addresses this deficit with teacher workshops that employ diverse, hands-on activities.

"I've worked with more than 200 teachers from Ohio during the workshops," says Munro-Stasiuk, "and all of them were yearning to bring what they learned back to their classrooms."

The teacher workshops and classroom lessons utilize inquiry-based approaches, requiring students to participate actively in projects and use problem-solving skills, instead of passively sitting through lectures.

GK-12 doctoral fellow B.J. Arnold says students gain the tools to ask, research and eventually answer their own questions — skills that will benefit students long after they graduate from high school.

The fellows, who were drawn to the unique, nontraditional style of the program, are as passionate about education as they are about science. As they prepare to launch careers in the competitive arena of 21st-century science, they are happy to share their experiences with the scientists of the future, often debunking myths and confronting stereotypes along the way.

For more information, visit www.kent.edu/magazine. 

THE STEALTH KILLER

Geography professor studies effectiveness of heat warning systems

By Melissa Edler, '00
Photo by Jeff Glidden, '87

Dr. Scott Sheridan, Kent State associate professor in geography, in front of a photograph of Toronto, Ontario, one of four cities for which he developed a heat warning system.

Which weather-related disaster causes the most fatalities? Hurricanes? Tornados? The answer may surprise you. It's oppressive summertime heat, and it claims more lives than all other weather-related disasters combined, explains Dr. Scott Sheridan, Kent State associate professor in geography. "Heat tends to be a stealth killer," says Sheridan. "When hurricanes occur, you see very dramatic pictures of the damage, but you don't see that with heat."

During the Chicago heat wave of 1995, several hundred people lost their lives; in 2003, a heat wave in France killed more than 13,000 people. Tragedies like these have increased scientists' interest in the effects of heat on our health and safety.

"There isn't much research about what happens after a heat warning is issued," says Sheridan. "We don't know if people listen to the warnings and if so, whether they take any action."

With grant funding from the Environmental Protection Agency, Sheridan looked for answers in four cities for which he developed heat-warning systems: Dayton, Ohio; Philadelphia; Phoenix; and Toronto, Ontario. His goal was to see how effectively the heat-warning systems had been implemented.

Using Kent State's Survey

Research Laboratory, Sheridan surveyed 900 residents 65 and older in each of the four regions about their perception of heat vulnerability, their knowledge of options for dealing with hot weather, and their decisions about whether or not to take action to avoid negative health outcomes during the heat emergency.

Almost 90 percent of the respondents were aware a heat warning had been issued, he found, but only about half of the people did anything about it. Many thought the warning messages were targeting the elderly and did not view themselves as part of that group. Those who did change their behavior on hot days did not attribute their decision to heat warnings issued by weather forecasters. Says Sheridan: "A lot of people judged whether it was hot out based on their own perception instead of the warnings announced on television."

Despite the fact that some people don't heed heat advisories, Sheridan's research shows that heat-warning systems have likely reduced the number of heat-related fatalities and other severe health issues.

"Heat warning systems are very important in almost any major city, but especially so in cities such as Phoenix, where

heat is often taken for granted," says Anton Haffer, Phoenix's National Weather Service meteorologist-in-charge. The system provides guidance to forecasters, so they can make informed decisions about releasing a heat advisory or warning. Once these advisories or warnings are issued, local agencies implement response actions to lessen the impact of the heat on the public.

Two types of heat warning systems exist. The most widespread system in the United States is the heat index system, which is based solely on temperature and humidity. The second type, used less frequently, is a synoptic-based heat warning system, which takes into account air mass, overnight and daytime temperatures and the time of year.

"The same temperature in May seems a lot hotter than the same temperature in July when we've had time to acclimate," explains Sheridan, who has participated in the development of more than 20 new synoptic-based systems.

Some researchers discount the dangers of heat because of the advent of air conditioning. But Sheridan says while it's true that fewer people are dying than in the past, that number is not zero.

"If the world gets warmer,

we need to know how people react now to be better prepared for the future," says Sheridan.

For more information about Sheridan's research, visit www.kent.edu/magazine. ☀

PROTECTING YOURSELF AGAINST EXTREME HEAT

- **Go to a cooler location.** If you're outside, seek the shade; if you're inside, go to your basement.
- **Lower your physical activity.**
- **Hydrate yourself with plenty of fluids.**
- **Check up on any elderly neighbors.** They are much more vulnerable than the general population because, as people age, their ability to accurately perceive heat lessens.
- **If you're running a fan and don't have an air conditioner, open a window for ventilation.**
- **Don't sit directly in front of a fan.** By doing so, you lose more water, because the air causes perspiration to evaporate more quickly. The idea is to cool the room, not you directly.

BEST of the BEST

Varsity K inducts nine new hall of famers

Even as the Hollywood award season got into full swing in February, Kent State University stole the spotlight to celebrate the 28th Annual Varsity "K" Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony with inductions for nine athletes, a distinguished alumnus and an honorary Varsity K member.

The Hall of Fame Class of 2006 includes *Bruno Cherrier*, '75, men's track and field; *Ben Curtis*, '00, men's golf; *Mike Gilliam*, '87, men's gymnastics; *Jim Gorsline*, '56, men's basketball and baseball; *Kevin Kraft*, '94, men's golf; *Kim Kreiner*, '00, women's track and field; *Dawn Zerman-McCullough*, '00, women's basketball; *Gary Waters*, men's head basketball coach, 1996-2001; and *Astron Whatley*, '97, football.

Fred Albrecht, '67, a three-year letterwinner in men's basketball during his career at Kent State, was honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Award. Educator and administrator *Tom Barber*, B.S. '63, M.Ed. '66, received the Honorary Varsity K Member Award for his contributions to the university's Intercollegiate Athletics program.

Induction into the hall of fame, says *Denise Zehner*, '91, director of Varsity K, is like "going to Canton" in professional football.

Each year, the Varsity K Hall of Fame selection committee chooses candidates

from a list of nearly 300 past letterwinners. While the committee considers criteria such as records and statistics in its selection process, this top honor in Kent State athletics recognizes more than just good athletes.

"We honor and celebrate the athletic and leadership talents of coaches, athletes and administrators," says Athletic Director **Laing Kennedy**. "These accomplished individuals have brought dignity, honor and prestige to their families, friends, communities and Kent State University."

Originally founded in 1927 by former Kent State Athletic Director Merle Wagoner, the Varsity K Club was developed as an organization that supported the university's athletic programs. Since 1979, the Varsity K Hall of Fame has been honoring the "best of the best" in Kent State athletics at the annual induction ceremony. Including the addition of the Class of 2006, a select group of 226 individuals from more than 6,000 former letterwinners, coaches and administrators has been enshrined in the hall of fame. The plaques honoring all 226 members are located in the Varsity K Hall of Fame gallery on the second floor of the Memorial Athletic and Convocation Center.

For the full story, including brief biographies of the new inductees, visit www.kent.edu/magazine. 🌟



Photo by Jeff Glidden, '87

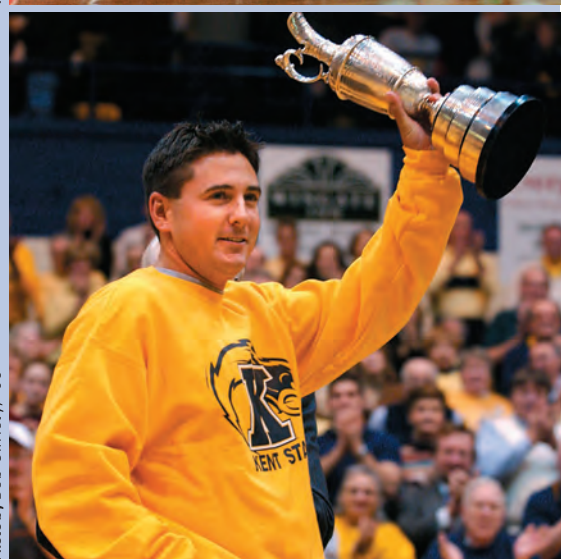


Photo by Bob Christy, '95



Photo by Gary Harwood, '83

TOP: Former Kent State men's basketball coach Gary Waters directs his players from the bench during the 1999 season.

CENTER: Ben Curtis, '00, winner of the 2003 British Open, greets the crowd gathered in the MACC as he is honored during the halftime of a men's basketball game.

BOTTOM: Inductee Dawn Zerman-McCullough, '00, is congratulated by alumnus and former Kent State football star Tom Kot, '48, as she approaches the stage after being inducted into the Varsity K Hall of Fame for her achievements with the Golden Flashes women's basketball team from 1997 to 2000.



STAYING IN THE RING

Randy Morrow, an employee-owner at Select Machine Inc., works at a mill.

Kent State coaches local business with nation's first 1042 rollover employee cooperative

By Melissa Edler, '00

Photos by Gary Harwood, '83

In the business arena, heavyweights such as Wal-Mart or Microsoft can pack a knockout punch when it comes to affecting the U.S. economy. However, the featherweights — or small businesses — are proving that they can punch above their weight. According to the 2005 Economic Report of the President, small businesses employ about half of the private-sector workforce and produce approximately half of private-sector output. In Ohio, they are vital to the economy and make up 98.3 percent of employer firms in the state.

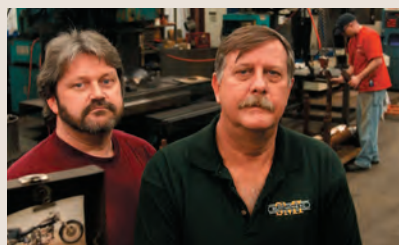
Small companies also produce more new jobs for Ohioans than larger companies. While large firms with 500 or more employees lost 134,954 positions between 2001 and 2002, companies with 20 employees or fewer gained 15,451 new jobs, according to a report published by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

And sometimes success isn't measured by the number of jobs created; it's measured by the number of jobs kept in the region. That was the case for one small company in Brimfield, Ohio, that sought help from Kent State University.

Co-owners Doug Beavers and William Sagaser of Select Machine Inc., a small company that manufactures, sells and distributes machined products and equipment for installation on construction and

demolition equipment, were contemplating selling the business they founded together in 1994. Despite interest from buyers who were likely to close the Brimfield location and open a new shop in another state, the co-owners hesitated.

"We wanted to do what was best for our employees and ourselves," says Beavers. So they sought advice from Kent State's Ohio Employee Ownership Center (OEOC), a nonprofit, university-based program established in 1987 to provide outreach, information and preliminary technical assistance to Ohio employees and business owners interested in exploring employee ownership.



Employee-owner David Baird and founding owner Doug Beavers at Select Machine Inc. Kent State's Ohio Employee Ownership Center helped the owners create an employee-owned cooperative using a 1042 rollover, deferring capital gains taxes and setting a national precedent in the manufacturing arena.

After sifting through rounds of options, the OEOC advised Sagaser and Beavers to create an employee-owned cooperative using a 1042 rollover, deferring capital gains taxes and setting a national precedent in the manufacturing arena.

"Even though the tax incentive for sellers deferring tax on their capital gains has been available since 1984, no one


has ever applied it to the purchase of a company through an employee-owned cooperative," says Dr. John Logue, OEOC director and chair of Kent State's Department of Political Science.

Employee-owned cooperatives offer an attractive option to small companies with 20 or fewer employees whose owners don't have family members available or willing to take over the business. In an employee-owned co-op, all employees have the option of joining by purchasing shares from the selling owners. In the case of Select Machine, co-op members bought 40 percent of the shares. As a debt-free company, the employee co-op took out a loan that will be paid off by the company's profits. After the first loan is paid, Beavers and Sagaser intend to sell the remaining 60 percent of their shares to the cooperative, of which they are members.

While deferring capital gains taxes for an unspecified amount of time is an advantage for owners, employees also benefit from the cooperative. All members of the co-op retain their jobs and benefits, and because the loan is paid by business proceeds, they aren't exposed financially. In addition, owners and employees profit from a more productive staff.

"Knowing you personally will share in the success of the company and its profits is a real motivator," says David Baird, employee and vice chairperson of Select Machine's board of directors.

With great coaching from the OEOC and persistence by the owners, 13 jobs and a small business remain in Ohio. Score this round for the featherweights.

For more information on the OEOC, contact John Logue, Bill McIntyre or Dan Bell at 330-672-3028 or oeoc@kent.edu, or visit www.kent.edu/oeoc. 

FIRST ASSIGNMENT

Summer reading program encourages discussion and analysis for incoming students



By Jim Szatkowski, '80, M.A. '94, and Ashley Katona,
Kent State Public Relations Student

James McBride, author of *The Color of Water*, signs books in the Kent State bookstore prior to his lecture and musical performance as part of the summer reading program.

Photo by Gary Harwood, '83

Standing before a packed house of mostly first-year students in the Kent Student Center Ballroom in September 2005, James McBride, author of *The Color of Water*, said aloud something few writers are likely to admit: "If I knew so many people would read it, I would have written a better book."

But the 1,100-plus people in attendance reacted with a collective chuckle that indicated the book was just fine.

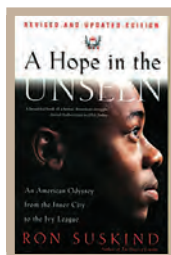
They are among millions of people worldwide who have read McBride's book, subtitled *A Black Man's Tribute to His White Mother*. The book was used in Kent State's first summer reading program for freshman students in 2005.

Terri Capellman, program director of the university's First-Year Experience program, says a university-wide planning committee selected McBride's book because it contains elements of diversity, identity, community and education — all topics of concern to new students.

All of the 3,500 incoming first-year students, as well as those transferring to Kent State, were expected to read the book in preparation for their first orientation class during the Week of Welcome ("WOW";

formerly New Student Orientation). Many of the orientation classes continued discussing the book throughout fall semester.

The summer reading program welcomes and connects incoming students to the university community, Capellman says. The process of reading and discussing the book creates a common intellectual experience for first-year students and also encourages critical thinking around the topic of diversity, she adds.



A university-wide committee chose *A Hope in the Unseen* for the 2006 summer reading program.

Based on the success of last year's program and the positive feedback from students, faculty and staff, the summer reading program will be offered again this year.

Students entering Kent State in 2006 will read Ron Suskind's *A Hope in the Unseen*, the story of Cedric Jennings, an African-American teenager who wants

to escape the inner city to capture a piece of the American Dream. Suskind follows Jennings from his successful high school career through his acceptance at Brown University.

For more information, visit www.kent.edu/magazine. 🌟

Online Exclusive

Midterm grades impact student retention

Freshmen midterm grades are directly linked to retention rates, according to findings from Kent State's Office of Research, Planning and Institutional Effectiveness. Last fall, university officials launched a series of efforts aimed at encouraging students to attend classes and study for midterms, all aimed at boosting freshman midterm grades. The results? Visit www.kent.edu/magazine to find out.





Photo by Bob Christy, '95

Laura Courtney, a registered veterinary technician at the Valley View Clinic in Dover, Ohio, assists Dr. Jason Lamb during an operation at the clinic. Because of demand for trained professionals in the region, Kent State Tuscarawas now offers a veterinary technician program.

Must Love Dogs ♦ ♦ ♦ and Other Animals

Kent State Tuscarawas now offers veterinary technology degree

By Pam Patacca, '76, Kent State Tuscarawas Public Relations Coordinator

After three years of development, the Associate of Applied Science in Veterinary Technology has been approved by the Ohio Board of Regents to be offered at Kent State Tuscarawas. Prerequisite courses in math and science, as well as the Liberal Education Requirements, are available now with the specialized vet tech courses to begin Fall Semester 2006. Only four other accredited veterinary technology programs exist in Ohio, and Kent State Tuscarawas is the only one of the university's eight campuses offering the program.

Increasing requests for a local veterinary technician program initiated the development of the degree by the campus' New Program Development Task Force. With the support of local veterinarians, the group conducted extensive research, which showed a great demand to employ degreed veterinary technicians in the community and surrounding counties.



Photo by Bob Christy, '95

Courtney restrains and comforts a canine patient who suffered a broken leg when it was kicked by a horse.

"Veterinary technicians are extremely important in giving veterinary care at this point in time. And there is a major shortage of available qualified technicians to provide the service," says Dr. H. Rodney Ferguson of Akron Veterinary Referral and Emergency Center in Akron, and a member of the campus' Veterinary Technology Advisory Board. "We look at it

as a very valuable and important service to have competent veterinary technicians."

Denise Testa, director of Enrollment Management and Student Services at the Tuscarawas Campus, facilitated the development of the new degree. "In response to the need of local veterinarians, our vet tech program will provide them with high-quality graduates who are employable immediately after earning this degree. Therefore, our students can accomplish both their vet tech education and career goals locally," says Testa.

The veterinary technology curriculum combines general education courses and rigorous coursework in science, animal health, management and veterinary medical concepts. Because the new program is selective, Kent State Tuscarawas will recruit highly motivated students with strong skills in math, biology and chemistry, as well as experience in working with animals.

Kent State Tuscarawas freshman Bob Argent, of Massillon, is pursuing an associate degree in veterinary technology because of his strong interest and expertise in reptiles. "Becoming a vet tech is something I always wanted to do," says Argent. "I'm inspired by my local veterinarian, who is very patient and answers all my questions about the veterinary field." The two-year evening program fits Argent's existing schedule of working during the day and attending classes at night.

The Associate of Applied Science in Veterinary Technology degree is designed to prepare graduates to serve as veterinary technicians performing support functions including routine laboratory and clinical procedures. Other growing employment opportunities are expected in biomedical research, diagnostic laboratories, wildlife facilities, humane societies and animal control facilities.

For more information, visit www.kent.edu/magazine.





Kent State Salem student Kathryn Garver stands in front of a home in Salem, Ohio, that was used as a stop on the Underground Railroad.

LOCAL HISTORY WRIT LARGE

Kent State Salem instructor, students examine mighty impact of a small Ohio town

By Melissa Edler, '00
Photos by Bob Christy, '95

Abby, a young Quaker girl, swings back and forth on a white fence gate, while her father, Dr. John C. Whinnery, observes from inside the house. She watches as a group of men approach; it's the 1860s, and the men are a cohort of slave hunters. Whinnery nervously reaches for the door, but stops to listen as his daughter talks nonchalantly to the men. The hunters ask Abby if there are any slaves in her house. She tells them no, and the group leaves, knowing a Quaker girl would not tell a lie.

Whinnery walks outside and asks Abby if she has just told a lie, since they both know six fugitives are hiding inside their home. She assures her father she didn't lie and simply tells him that her religion has taught her no man is a slave.

This story is just one of the few precious nuggets of history in a small town's past. In the same way archaeologists dig for artifacts

left behind by ancient cultures, a teacher and her students from Kent State Salem are discovering the remarkable heritage of a quaint town in eastern Ohio.

Four students from Sandra Eaglen's playwriting class are penning short scripts based on their research about different aspects in Salem's history; topics include the Civil War, the Underground Railroad, the first permanent settlers and one of the top American watercolorists of the 20th century. Eaglen, '85, a lecturer of English, theatre and speech, will combine the four scripts and her own text into one play to be performed at the Salem Community Theater this July in honor of Salem's bicentennial year, 2006.

"I really like to get students involved outside the classroom as much as possible," says Eaglen. The students have visited libraries, historical societies and museums, gaining a unique writing experience, while also learning about a local town's history.

"I don't know a lot about Salem, so it's exciting to do this research," says Casey Cross, an integrated language arts major. He studied Salem's involvement in the Civil War. Almost 100 soldiers from Salem participated in the Civil War, says Cross, whose skit incorporates journal entries from

Union soldier Private Robert Hopkins. Hopkins and his father voluntarily enlisted after Lincoln's call to arms. Both men, along with 88 members of the Salem troop, went to Cleveland for training and became part of Company H in the 19th regiment.

During the same time period, the community of Salem was playing a vital part in the Underground Railroad, says psychology major Kathryn L. Garver, who has a personal connection with her topic.

"As a kid, I played in my friend's home in Lisbon that was part of the Underground Railroad," she says.

Salem was settled by Quakers who were abolitionists, and a lot of Underground Railroad activity took place in the area, says Eaglen. The town served as the headquarters for the Western Anti-Slavery Society, which held caucus meetings at Liberty Hall. In addition, 12 houses that were part of the Underground Railroad still stand in the city today, including the Joel McMillan Home and the Daniel Howell Hise Home, both named for the residents who lived there.

Joel McMillan, an active conductor on the Underground Railroad, had a hiding place for slaves in an alcove behind an enormous fireplace in his basement kitchen.



Online Exclusive

Kent State Geauga celebrates county's bicentennial

Kent State Geauga is hosting several events as part of Geauga County's bicentennial celebration this summer, including a music festival, an "Ohio Chautauqua" and an "1800s house," where a real family will live for a full week. Find out more at www.kent.edu/magazine.



Sandy Eaglen, a lecturer in English at Kent State Salem, enjoys a display at the Salem Historical Society.

When a roaring fire was in the fireplace, the slaves couldn't be seen. McMillan even employed a former slave girl named Abby Kelly Salem, who was rescued by the town's anti-slavery faction and lived most of her life in Salem working for the McMillan family.

Daniel Howell Hise's house was often the first stop of refuge when conductors used the Salt Springs Trail, one of three Underground Railroad trails that went through Salem. Hise and his wife were active in the Western Anti-Slavery Movement. They hosted nationally renowned abolitionist speakers, such as Henry C. Wright and Oliver Johnson, and helped organize Salem's Annual Anti-Slavery Fair. For more than 30 years, Hise also wrote daily notes, which are now housed at the Ohio Historical and Salem Historical Societies.

"When you live in such a small town, you often feel there's nothing exciting about it," says Garver. "But when you look into its history, the city may have played an important role, like the abolitionist movement."

English major *Maegan Richards* agrees. "It's important for young people to realize that Salem has played a large role in history," she says. Both she and student *Patrick Rigney* researched previous resi-



Casey Cross, student at Kent State Salem, studied Salem's Civil War history. Here he's seen at Freedom Hall in Salem with a model of an early American fort.

dents of Salem. Rigney studied the lives of the town's first recorded permanent settlers, Elisha Schooley and his two sons, who came to Salem in 1801.

Richards wrote about a more famous resident, Charles Burchfield, one of the top 20th-century watercolorists in the country. Burchfield lived in Salem from his childhood through his early 20s, and many of his paintings include scenes from around Salem. Considered an expressionist by the art world, he attended the Cleveland School of Art, and his paintings have been displayed in galleries such as the Museum of Modern Art, Cleveland Museum of Art, Rochester Memorial Art Gallery and the Cleveland School of Art.

Richards says she's glad she had this opportunity to learn more about Burchfield and her hometown's heritage. "It was fascinating to me that a world-famous painter lived here, and no one really knows about it," she says. "I wouldn't have found that out without taking this class."

Some of the interesting historical facts discovered by these students will come in handy when the city of Salem begins offering tours through town on a bright red trolley this summer — one small effort to help bring its history back to life.

For more information, visit www.kent.edu/magazine. 🌞

Crafting HEIRLOOMS

Textile arts program weaves together art, technology, industry

By Rachel Wenger, '00



Rumana Hawa, '02, a master's student in textiles, with one of her creations.

Rumana Hawa, '02, has 1,759 options when she starts her weaving work at Kent State University's textile arts studio.

As she gently slides open a wooden drawer, crowded with an array of brightly colored spools, she decides that today she will use an aquamarine thread to begin weaving on the loom that sits before her. Slowly guiding the shuttle from left to right through the digital loom's 1,759 vertical warp threads, she begins the interlacing that signals the birth of a design.

From then on, with the help of digital technology and patience, the possibilities are endless.

Hawa, a Kent State graduate student studying textile arts, is extremely focused when it comes to crafting the blueprints for her designs, so much so that

she spent three weeks on her computer developing the composition for what will become her graduate thesis.

Hawa, from Mumbai (Bombay), India, enrolled in textile arts after receiving her bachelor's degree in interior design from Kent State. Even though her interests in design helped familiarize her with the textile arts craft (which uses various techniques to create fabrics and art using threads and fibers), she was like many students who "stumble" into the program, says **Janice Lessman-Moss**, director of the university's textile arts program.

"Few students know that the textile arts program exists until they are already enrolled at Kent State University," says Lessman-Moss, who has shared her passion for textile art and weaving with Kent State stu-

dents for 25 years. "Even if they are interested in art as a high-school student, there often isn't mention of textile arts. This is a rather obscure field."

The textile arts program is small, with about 30 students majoring in the bachelor's and master's degree programs combined, says Lessman-Moss, but it is consistently growing and is defined by its eclectic mix of students: Some enroll in textile arts to study the craft for personal fulfillment, while others pursue the work strictly as art.

The program's 2005 move from Franklin Hall, where it had operated since 1980, to state-of-the-art facilities in Lake Hall now gives textile arts greater campus visibility, Lessman-Moss adds.

"And the new facilities we have are second to none. We

have a lot of comfortable studio space and quality equipment," she says. "There is no doubt that the program's new use of this space validates our presence here."

While students learn the foundations of textile art — hand manipulation, dying and processing of materials and weaving using wooden, jack and dobby looms — they also benefit greatly from the availability of new technology in the field. Two new aluminum and metal digital looms, for example, allow students to design and execute stunningly intricate patterns using CAD (computer-aided design) software and other digital functions. The recent acquisition of these computerized TC-1 Jacquard Looms, at a cost of \$75,000, was made possible

primarily through the generosity of the Morgan Foundation, the School of Art and Elizabeth Rhodes, director of the Shannon Rodgers and Jerry Silverman School of Fashion Design and Merchandising, Lessman-Moss says.

The computerized loom provides Hawa with another tool to “weave the perceptions of my life in a coherent and expressive way,” she says. With guidance from Lessman-Moss, Hawa says she’s transitioned from not knowing how to dress or prepare a loom at the beginning of her graduate work, to obtaining skills that have helped her create award-winning weavings. She


explains her artwork as a layering of ancient Arabic script, square Kufic, which overlaps a mathematical grid system of juxtaposed shapes that shift in scale. The logically placed script creates a sense of movement through composition, she says.

“The weavings are expressions of my simplest and best method of meditation,” Hawa says. “Breathing in and out during quiet moments helps me focus through the distractions of modern living.

“But my weavings are more than just religious; they are geometric, too,” she adds. “I would like people to view my works globally not just for the meaning, but also for the intricacies and the craftsmanship of the designs.”

While Hawa uses textile arts to create one-of-a-kind artwork that gives her religious beliefs a creative expression, Lessman-Moss says that many students will use their skills to design textiles for use in industry. She continually works to keep the program connected to its roots, which emphasize the importance of building a challenging yet supportive environment for students to explore crafts.

“We’ve been lucky enough to retain our unique identity,” she says. “Kent State students in this program learn the distinct history of the craft of weaving, which would be a tragedy to lose.”

For more information, visit www.kent.edu/magazine. 

BELOW: Janice Lessman-Moss, director of Kent State’s textile arts program, and student Robin Haller work on a loom in the textile studio. **RIGHT:** A textile piece made by master’s student Rumana Hawa, ‘02.



An ANGEL in the WINGS



Philanthropist and alumna Roe Green, M.A. '80, visits Wright-Curtis Theatre at Kent State.

Alumna supports Theatre and Dance facilities with Kent State's largest capital gift

By Megan Harding, '83

Roe Green knows that books and computers can't teach students all they need to learn about developing poise, public speaking skills and a fertile imagination. Green, who earned her master's degree in theatre from Kent State in 1980, believes every student should take at least one drama course while in college, even if they don't plan on making a career onstage. In theatre and dance, she says, students learn to use very basic tools — their bodies, voices and powers of

imagination — to transport themselves to a totally new environment, then to re-create that world for audiences.

"The arts are what make us human," Green says.

According to two recent studies, learning through the arts, when integrated with other K-12 school reforms, helps students achieve high-level thinking, collaborate with peers and perform better on standardized tests. "When there are budget cuts in our schools, art is always the first to go and

it's very sad," Green says, because she senses that the Nintendo and iPod generations are at risk of losing the ability to use their imaginations to solve problems.

In January, Green expressed her lifelong love of art and theatre as she made a pledge of \$6.5 million — the largest capital gift commitment in Kent State history — through The Roe Green Foundation. Her generosity will make it possible to significantly expand and upgrade facilities for the School of Theatre and Dance.

"More than 300 students are involved in the theatre and dance programs, and I feel they deserve to have a wonderful building to work in," she says.

"Kent State will have all the performing arts under one roof."

Green, of Aurora, Ohio, made the decision after seeing the high quality of Kent State's facilities for fashion, a newer program that has already received significant private support. She also knew that enrollment in theatre and dance had doubled since 1998, and had seen how well students responded to interaction with nationally known artists brought to campus as part of the Roe Green Visiting Director Series, which her foundation created in 2002.

Last year, guest director Sue Ott Rowlands staged an award-winning production based on interviews with Laramie, Wyoming, residents and their reactions to the murder of

Matthew Shepard, a gay college student. "It was a wonderful experience to watch Sue in rehearsal with the students. She had them in the palm of her hand," Green says. "Afterward, when the students come up to me and say, 'Thank you so much for giving me a life-altering experience,' [I know] that's what giving is all about."

Dr. John R. Crawford, director of the School of Theatre and Dance, got to know Green several years ago when she began serving on the advisory board for the school and later for the Porthouse Theatre. Green, who describes herself as a "backstage person" rather than an actress, has professional experience in stage and business management at Cain Park in Cleveland Heights, Cleveland Opera and the Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park. She also was a competitive ballroom dancer for 12 years.

"Roe is very student-oriented," Crawford says. "She always sees her philanthropy from the vantage point of the



Photo by Bob Christy, '95

Brooke Rucidlo plays the witch and Marissa Montigney plays Rapunzel in the School of Theatre and Dance's production of *Into the Woods*.

students and what they need to reach their goals." For example, the new facility will be equipped with sophisticated sound and lighting controls that offer students more hands-on time to build technical skills in high demand by the entertainment industry. Also, there will be space to store theatrical sets that can be recycled; currently, these materials must be discarded when a production closes.

One immediate benefit will be having more space and flexibility to encourage theatre and dance students to explore and present their own work, as well as to

collaborate on projects. "Right now, we don't have a place for that to happen," Crawford says. He adds that renovated facilities will provide a long-missing piece of the arts puzzle, accenting Kent State's already strong programs and faculty.

"This is a fabulous campus. Every single thing should be up-to-the-minute, including theatre and dance facilities," Green says.

Nancy Temple, who knows Green from their mutual involvement as WomenSpace volunteers, says of her friend, "She is such a strong woman that she won't tolerate whiners, but she'll turn herself inside out to help someone who's working hard to achieve their goals." Green has made a significant capital gift to build a shelter in Chardon, Ohio, for victims of domestic violence. Construction of the "Green House" will be completed this fall.

Green has served as a board member of the Cleveland Play House and as the president of C.A.V.O.R.T. Inc. (Conference About Volunteers of Regional Theatres). She is on the women's committees for the Cleveland Play House and Aurora Blossom Music Center. She has provided significant support to theatre programs at the University of Colorado, where she received her undergraduate degree, and in Jupiter, Florida, where she has a winter home.

"I have a philosophy in life," Green says. "If I have five oranges ... one of them I'll eat, one I will save, and those other three — give them away."

Green is an insatiable theatergoer. It's not uncommon for her to see two shows a day. World travel also is a lifelong

avocation for Green, who has visited more than 140 countries and says she has found one truth that stands out: "People are very creative. This is why I love Africa and some ... [developing] countries. I've watched what people can do with nothing. In Guatemala, they take old rubber tires and make sandals. You can't destroy those sandals."

"If you give people half a chance, they can be very innovative and very creative. That's why it bothers me when I think our kids are losing this creativity. The Internet is a wonderful tool, but what's happened to our imaginations? I'm saying, 'Let's keep the arts alive here at Kent State.'"

For more information, visit www.kent.edu/magazine. 🌟

Online Exclusive



Setting the stage for collaboration

Groundbreaking for the addition to Kent State's Music and Speech Building is envisioned for summer 2007, along with major renovation of existing space. Visit www.kent.edu/magazine to find out how the proposed transformation will benefit the theatre and dance programs. "We hope this is just the beginning of a renaissance for the School of Theatre and Dance," says school director Dr. John R. Crawford. "We want it to become the premier theatre and dance program in the Midwest."



Photo by Bob Christy, '95

Dance student Kelly Sammon performs in *Spatial Etchings*, the Dance 2005 production.

Online nursing journal celebrates 10 years

The success of the *Online Journal of Issues in Nursing* (OJIN) surprised everyone involved in its evolution. “We never expected the journal to grow as quickly as it did,” says editor-in-chief and Kent State Professor of Nursing **Harriet Coeling**. Founders of the publication soon realized that nursing’s first totally online journal filled an important niche for nursing and health care professionals.



Kent State nursing students.

OJIN, which is supported by Kent State’s College of Nursing, is published three times yearly in partnership with the American Nurses Association. Its articles have covered such diverse topics as aging, complementary therapies, continuing competence, diversity, domestic violence, entry into practice, genetics, HIPAA, nurse safety, patient safety and shared governance. To access this free publication, follow the links at www.kent.edu/magazine.

Journalism partnership promotes diversity

A new agreement allows Cuyahoga Community College students with an Associate of Arts degree with a focus in journalism and mass communication to transfer seamlessly to Kent State’s School of Journalism and Mass Communication, the only accredited journalism school in Northeast Ohio, to complete coursework for a Bachelor of Arts.

Kent State’s journalism school and Tri-C hope to construct a “pipeline” of greater access for Cleveland-area minority students interested in pursuing careers in newspaper and magazine journalism, public relations, advertising, broadcast news and production.

“The idea just makes sense, especially since 85 percent of Tri-C students elect to stay in Northeast Ohio upon graduation,” says **Michelle McCoy**, ’86, M.A. ’94, program manager of journalism and mass communication at Tri-C.

Jeff Fruit, director of Kent State’s School of Journalism and Mass Communication, and McCoy worked with faculty at both universities to develop course outlines and review classroom experience to ensure that the content approach used by the program would meet accreditation standards set by the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communication.

For more information, visit www.kent.edu/magazine.

New aircraft elevates flight program

Kent State President **Carol A. Cartwright** accepted the keys to two new Cessna Skyhawk airplanes from Hal Shevers, chair, Eastern Cincinnati Aviation, at a ceremony in January.

The addition of the Cessna Skyhawks, featuring the Garmin G1000 navigation system, is part of ongoing modernization of the university’s training fleet. With

the purchase, Kent State is one of just two Ohio universities to offer its flight students training in aircraft equipped with fully integrated flight instruments and avionics, the most sophisticated cockpit training aircraft currently available.

“As the largest flight-training program in Ohio — the birthplace of aviation — Kent State expects the fleet upgrade with the integrated avionics offered by the Garmin G1000 system to support continued



Photos by Jeff Glidden, '87



excellence in providing flight education for the next generation of aviation professionals," says Dr. **Isaac Richmond Nettey**, senior academic program director for aeronautics.

Kent State is the only university in the state to receive Council on Aviation Accreditation, the first and only Bridge Program Agreement with Continental Express and counts the nation's very first female pilot in the history of the Marine Corps among its graduates.

For more information, visit www.kent.edu/magazine.

As a part of ongoing modernization of Kent State's training fleet, two Cessna Skyhawks, featuring the Garmin G1000 navigation system, were recently added. With the purchase, Kent State is one of just two Ohio universities to offer its flight students training in aircraft equipped with fully integrated flight instruments and avionics, the most sophisticated cockpit training aircraft currently available.



Faculty diversity increases


Organizations and institutions now recognize that, often, what is familiar and what is comfortable are not ingredients for success in a global society. As Kent State approaches its centennial, increasing and celebrating diversity are among the university's top priorities.

In her final State of the University address, Kent State President **Carol A.**

Cartwright underscored the importance of creating an optimum work environment for all employees. This commitment, coupled with Kent State's "hiring for diversity" initiative, have caused potential faculty to take notice.

Overall, the number of faculty members from underrepresented groups has increased by 20 percent in each of the last four years. Six new faculty hires in the College and Graduate

School of Education, Health, and Human Services hail from diverse cultural backgrounds, while the Kent State Department of Physics ranks among the top in the nation for both granting doctorate degrees to women and having one of the highest percentages of female faculty members in the country.

For more information about Kent State's commitment to diversity, follow the links at www.kent.edu/magazine. 



Franklin Hall Web site offers history, construction updates

Renovation continues on Franklin Hall, future home of Kent State University's School of Journalism and Mass Communication. Reconstruction started in summer 2005 on the building that first opened in 1926; it will welcome faculty and students in fall 2007.

Follow the link at www.kent.edu/magazine to visit the School of Journalism and Mass Communication's Franklin Hall Web site for construction updates, a documentary on Franklin Hall and much more.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

MEMBER PROFILE

Monique Burkett, '02

Fashion Designer, Calvin Klein

A fashion designer for Calvin Klein ladies' suits, Burkett launched her first line for the company in January 2006.

Following graduation, she was assistant designer for Tahari A.S.L. Burkett resides in New York and is a native of Norton, Ohio. She holds a degree in fashion design.



What Kent State means to you

Opportunity. During my senior year, I was selected for an internship at Ellen Tracy. It was an experience of a lifetime, and Linda Allard, '62, has always been an inspiration to me. I landed the internship, in part, because of the fashion school's excellent reputation. It really opened doors for my career.

Greatest accomplishment

During my internship at Ellen Tracy, I designed a bathing suit that was featured in Sports Illustrated and on MTV's Fashionably Loud. I went to New York City expecting to make coffee. I left with an incredible experience.

Something most people don't know about me

I grew up on a bird farm. We raised everything from chickens to African fighting birds.

Campus memory

Riding the Campus Loop all the way from Metcalf to Rockwell Hall. Those design portfolios and supplies were really heavy. Thank you, Campus Bus Service.

Why I joined the Alumni Association

It's a great way to network and stay connected to Kent State.

Members support programs that:

- Build and sustain lifelong relationships;
- Encourage learning and professional growth;
- Celebrate the successes of alumni, faculty and students;
- Share the excitement of university accomplishments.


ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

www.ksualumni.org



From the President of the Kent State University Alumni Association

Gary Brahler, '89



Lindsey Loftus and Gary Brahler.

It is with mixed emotions that I announce the departure of *Lindsey Loftus*, executive director of the Kent State Alumni Association. Lindsey recently accepted a position at the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine (NEOUCOM) as vice president of advancement. On behalf of the university community, I congratulate and thank you, Lindsey, for your contributions to Kent State as a student, alumnus and key university staff member.

Lindsey's many career highlights include the Alumni Association's steady increase in membership growth and the development of our association's 2006-2010 strategic plan. Lindsey graduated from Kent State in 1986, receiving a B.A. in telecommunications. He began his career at Kent State in 1987 and later returned to the university in 2000 to serve as the association's executive director.

Lindsey will remain very much a part of his alma mater, continuing his role at Kent State as a volunteer alumnus. The search for the Alumni Association's next executive director is currently underway. **Lori Randorf**, M.B.A. '99, associate director, will serve as interim executive director during this leadership transition. Alumni may forward any questions or comments to alumni@kent.edu or 888-320-KENT.

CLASS NOTES

'43

Eva Medved, North Canton, Ohio, is a retired Kent State University professor of nutrition. *

'51

Charmaine (Brown) Morgan, Bowling Green, Ky., retired after 25 years of teaching from Simpson County Schools in Franklin, Ky. *

'56

Neil Myers, Euclid, Ohio, after 40 years, still practices as an attorney in Euclid. *

'63

Judy (Michael) Pachmayer, Cincinnati, Ohio, is a retired teacher and is currently employed by Sibcy Cline Realtors. *

'64

Gretchen Bierbaum, M.A. '68, Hudson, Ohio, co-authored *Collage in All Dimensions* with fellow alumna Petrina Gardner. ✦ **Henry Walker**, M.A. '69, Kent, Ohio, has received numerous awards for his watercolor artwork. *

'66

Joseph Samuels, M.Ed. '77, Clovis, Calif., is employed by West Valley College as the vice president, instruction, in Saratoga, Calif.

'67

Anthony Demarco Jr., Strongsville, Ohio, is retired from Parma Senior High School as the art teacher/department chair. Demarco is currently the vice president of the Parma Senior High School Alumni Association, editor of the PSHS Alumni Association newspaper and is a member on the board of directors of the Byers Field Foundation. ✦ **Edward J. Japeh**, Rantoul, Ill., is retired, after 31 years, from the Army Corp. of

Engineering in Champaign, Ill., as principal investigator for computers.

'68

James W. Deitrick, M.S., Austin, Texas, is a professor and KPMG Peat Marwick Centennial Fellow in accounting. For the fourth time out of the last five years, Deitrick has received the Outstanding Professor Award at the University of Texas at Austin. Deitrick was also recognized by the Texas Blazers as an Outstanding Professor and Scholar and Outstanding Professor by Texas M.B.A.'s. ✦ **Robert Malcuit**, M.S. '70, Granville, Ohio, taught geology at Denison from 1972-1999. Malcuit was invited to present a paper at the 117th annual meeting of the Geology Society of America, "Was the Moon Involved in the First 650 Million Years of Earth History?: Two Contrasting Scenarios." *

'69

Mary Vinings, Evansville, Ind., is currently employed by JoAnn Fabric. *

'70

Leona (Wright) Farris, M.A., Stow, Ohio, is involved in many volunteer organizations and has received numerous community service awards and recognition for her volunteer work. ✦ **Petrina Gardner**, Wilmington, Del., co-authored *Collage in All Dimensions* with fellow alumna Gretchen Bierbaum. *

'71

Joseph Sanda, Dover, Ohio, is employed by Shawnee State as the Educational Outreach Coordinator. Sanda also works at Kent State University-Tuscarawas Campus as an

academic advisor, financial aid consultant and a Tech Prep liaison. *

'72

Kevin Kerrigan, Corpus Christi, Texas, has been named to the Scripps Howard Hall of Fame for headline writing. Kerrigan is an editor at the *Corpus Christi Caller-Times* and is a member of the Dow Jones Center for Editing Excellence at the University of Texas at Austin. *

'73

Monika Bachmann, Mantua, Ohio, is the owner of Bachmann Design Services. ✦ **Karen Curry**, Old Greenwich, Conn., co-wrote *Great Golf: 150 Years of Essential Instruction from the Greatest Players, Teachers and Writers of All Time*. *

'74

Sherrie (Graham) Grayan, Mobile, Ala., is the president of Bay Coast Consulting Partners/LAWoman Magazine. ✦ **Christina (Gaynor) Jackson**, Akron, Ohio, is the creative director at Malone Advertising. ✦ **Guy Trinetti**, Willowick, Ohio, is retired after 31 years as a teacher and coach for South Euclid Lyndhurst Schools and is now employed at Retiree Housing Management Company as the quality assurance supervisor. *

'75

Richard Barnett, Wadsworth, Ohio, was named Wal-Mart 2005 Teacher of the Year in Wadsworth. Barnett teaches media communications for the Four Cities Educational Compact at Wadsworth High School. Barnett was also named to "Who's Who Among



Senior Life Membership — A Convenient Option

By Jahel Guerra Roa
Kent State Journalism Student

The Alumni Association is constantly looking for ways to provide Kent State alumni with cost-effective and convenient membership options.

With life memberships becoming increasingly popular, the Alumni Association is now offering half-price senior membership rates for alumni 62 and older. The cost of the senior life membership is \$250 for individuals and \$300 for couples.

"A life membership is an excellent way for alumni to demonstrate their continuing commitment to Kent State," says **Lori Randorf**, M.B.A. '99, interim executive director of the Kent State Alumni Association.

For more information about other membership options — as well as the benefits of belonging to the Alumni Association — call the association at 330-672-KENT (5368) or 1-888-320-KENT or go to the Alumni Association Web site at www.ksualumni.org.

America's Teachers" for 2004 and 2005. ♦ **Brian Crede**, New York, N.Y., is self-employed as a creative director. ♦ ♦ **Bradley Hudson**, M.F.A. '82, Manlius, N.Y., a registrar and curator in museum studies, will present artwork in the Faculty Show at Syracuse University.

'76 **Mark Glickman**, M.Ed., Boca Raton, Fla., has joined the Wachovia Wealth Management team as vice president and senior charitable advisor. ♦ ♦ **Gary Zwick**, Solon, Ohio, was chosen as part of *Worth* magazine's "Top 100 Attorneys" list. Zwick is a partner at the

Cleveland, Ohio, law firm Walter & Haverfield LLP where he is chair of the tax and wealth management section. Zwick is the past president of the Institute for Creative Living and founding member of the Board of Jobs for Greater Cleveland Graduates. He is a member of the Small Business Council of America, the Family Firm Institute, the AB Tax Section, the AICPA Tax Division, the Tax Club of Cleveland and the Cleveland Bar Association's General Tax Committee and the Estate Planning Probate and Trust Law sections.

'77 **Arlene Obertance**, East Liverpool, Ohio, is a teacher for the Edison Board of Education in Richmond, Ohio.

'79 **Edward Moss** is employed by the U.S. Air Force as a maintenance supervisor in Europe. ♦ **George Sulin**, Arlington, Texas, is employed as a senior associate manager for Cracker Barrel. ♦ ♦ **Cheryl Thompson-Stacy**, M.Ed. '82, M.B.A. '93, Biloxi, Miss., accepted the position of president at Eastern Shore Community College. ♦

'81 **Ray Chung**, Bakersfield, Calif., is employed by Kern Medical Center as the director of surgical residency. ♦ ♦ **Steven Lerner**, Powell, Ohio, is employed as the managing director at Art Originals etc.

'82 **Timothy Kist**, Pittsburgh, Pa., has been appointed director of business development of JSA Architecture Planning Engineering and Interior Design where he has been an architect and senior associate since 1984. ♦ ♦ **Anthony J. LaCerva**, Lakewood, Ohio, is employed by Calfee law firm and is responsible for business, corporate and commercial litigation; bankruptcy litigation and

intellectual property litigation. LaCerva was recently ranked in Northeast Ohio's top one percent of lawyers according to *Inside Business* magazine's 2005 Leading Lawyer results.

♦ ♦ **Thomas Romack**, M.Ed., Warren, Ohio, is employed as the assistant superintendent of Mahoning County Educational Service in Boardman, Ohio.

'83 **David Hite**, Newark, Ohio, is a self-employed lawyer. ♦

'84 **Kimberly (Engelhart) Cunningham**, Brunswick, Ohio, is a quality nurse reviewer for Louis Stokes Cleveland Veterans Medical Center in Brecksville, Ohio. ♦ **Mary Fisher**, Ph.D., Indianapolis, Ind., was recently promoted to professor and chair of the Department of Environments for Health at Indiana University School of Nursing. ♦

'85 **Marc David Cohn**, Columbus, Ohio, has been named partner and director of creative services at HyperDrive Interactive LLC in Cincinnati, Ohio. ♦ **Richard Cohn**, M.A., Rockville, Md., is the chief of the capacity planning branch of the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

'86 **Pamela (Shutty) Donovan**, Columbia, Md., is a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force.

'87 **Paul Hofer**, Horsham, Pa., is employed by W. Atlee Burpee, Warminster, Pa., as a controller. ♦ ♦ **Anne Lowery**, M.L.I.S. '02, Ashtabula, Ohio, is employed by Henderson Memorial Public Library, Jefferson, Ohio, as a reference/adult services librarian. ♦

'88 **Steven Nicholls**, Orlando, Fla., is employed as a mortgage

broker with British Home Loans Florida in Kissimmee, Fla.

'89 **George Georgiou**, Uniontown, Ohio, is the managing partner at Tenaz LLC, Stow, Ohio. ♦ ♦ **Sandra (Meimaris) Stokes**, Ph.D., Green Bay, Wis., is a professor of education and women's studies at the University of Wisconsin. Stokes is also the journal editor for the Wisconsin State Reading Association. ♦ **Ty Vaughn**, Imperial, Mo., was named recipient of Monsanto's prestigious Edgar M. Queeny Award for 2005 because of his role in the discovery and development of a key product. ♦ **Gabriele Zsebi**, M.L.S., Vienna, Va., is employed as the law librarian for Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP.

'90 **James Loew**, Latrobe, Pa., is a monk at Saint Vincent College. ♦

'91 **Scott Goemmel**, Clinton Township, Mich., is a partner for PMV Technologies in Troy, Mich., and was recently recognized by a leading technology publication as one of the top 25 IT executives. ♦ **Michael McFarland**, Port St. Lucie, Fla., is the president of MICA Building Company. ♦ **Connie Morrison Robinson**, Ph.D., is a retired school counselor/educator. ♦ ♦ **Mike Turner**, Midlothian, Va., is employed as a senior programmer/analyst for the Virginia State Police in Richmond, Va.

'92 **Amy (Langenfeld) Zimmerman**, Boise, Idaho, is employed as the executive director for Life's Door Hospice.

'93 **Elliott Crosby**, Walnut Creek, Calif., is the senior shipboard system analyst for Chevron in San Ramon, Calif. ♦ **Molly Delaney**, M.A., Parma, Ohio,



Disney Magic Shines on Alums

McCombs, Frangipane named Teachers of the Year

By Beth Baldwin, '05

What is a teacher? A mentor? A tutor? An inspiration?

For students in *Brian McCombs'* and *Guy Frangipane's* classes, the answer is yes.

McCombs, '90, M.Ed. '98, and Frangipane, '76, M.Ed. '80, each received last year's Disney Teacher of the Year award, recognizing them for their creativity and dedication.

McCombs and Frangipane were two of the 45 educators selected from 50,000 nominees. Out of the 45 honorees, only three were from Ohio, with both McCombs and Frangipane hailing from Kent State.

Although McCombs and Frangipane share a common Kent State heritage, they did not meet each other until July at the award ceremony at Disneyland in California.

For both McCombs and Frangipane, a career in education seemed to make sense.

"I studied chemical engineering during my first two years of college," says McCombs, who teaches math at Theodore Roosevelt High School, in Kent, Ohio. "I was coaching at the same time, and I just fell in love with working with high school

students. I made the switch."

Frangipane decided to study teaching during his sophomore year at Kent State.

"Growing up, I hated school," he says. "I thought that school should and could be fun, and I thought I could teach it better than some of the people who taught me."

Frangipane brings this attitude into his classroom at Drake Elementary in Strongsville, Ohio, where his third-graders have the opportunity to participate in many extra activities, such as writing the school newspaper and organizing food and alumni-can drives.

"I try to make lessons hands-on and fun," he says. "It's neat because Brian does the same thing, only on a high-school level."

All nominees had to complete an application form, answering essay questions such as "Why did you become a teacher?" and "How do you stay creative in the classroom?" The winners also had to prepare a presentation illustrating the unique aspects of their classrooms.

"The hardest part, for me, was waiting to see if I'd won," McCombs says. "Answering the essays fit what I do, but waiting was




Brian McCombs, '90, M.Ed. '98, and Guy Frangipane, '76, M.Ed. '80, each received last year's Disney Teacher of the Year award.

tough. My kids were just as eager to hear the results as I was."

As part of the Teacher of the Year program, all 45 recipients went to Disneyworld in October for different workshops.

Seeing his nontraditional approach validated was the most rewarding part of the program, Frangipane says.

"I've always thought that it's important to remember that I'm educating the whole kid, not just preparing them for a test," Frangipane says. "Education's overall goal is to produce kids who are good, wholesome citizens."

For more information on the awards, or to nominate an exceptional teacher, visit www.disneyhand.com and navigate to the "learning" section. 

is employed by Energizer (Eveready Battery Company) in Westlake, Ohio, as a technician. ✦ **Jennifer Forsythe**, M.S. '98, South Bend, Ind., is a research technician at the University of Notre Dame and is also a wing walker. ✦ **Yvette Lewis**, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, is a property resolution representative for Allstate in Hudson, Ohio. ✦ ✦ **Chrysanthé Vassiles**, Canton, Ohio, is an attorney for Black, McCuskey, Souers & Arbaugh. ✦ **Ronald Wise**, Longmont, Colo., is employed by Intrado Inc.

'94

Warren Castellani, Flushing, N.Y., is employed by LCSJ as an administrator. ✦ **Melissa Percic**, M.L.S., Lisbon, Ohio, is director of the Carnegie Public Library in East Liverpool, Ohio.

'95

Anthony Alioto, Ph.D., Columbus, Ohio, is employed by

Children's Hospital as a pediatric psychologist.

'96

Miriam Bialik da Silva, Hamilton, Ohio, is employed by International Medical Corps as a field operations specialist. ✦ **Gracie Crowley**, Blacklick, Ohio, is a project manager at Applied Engineering Group Ltd. ✦ **Michael Estvanic**, Wooster, Ohio, is a mathematics teacher with Wooster City Schools. ✦ **Tom Ross**, Cleveland, Ohio, was elected as recording secretary for the CPAA. Ross is employed by the Cleveland Police Department. ✦

'97

Jason Ford, M.A., Orlando, Fla., is an assistant professor of sociology at the University of Central Florida. ✦ **Teri (Lieser) Scalabrino**, New Philadelphia, Ohio, is employed at Mercy Medical Center as a registered nurse. ✦ **Brenda (Duffield) Vogley**, B.S. '97, Akron, Ohio,

is employed as a marketing associate at the Kent State University Tuscarawas Campus.

'98

Bennetta Bradford-Wilson, M.Ed., Cleveland, Ohio, is coordinator of social services at Merrick House. ✦ **Zelalem Girma**, Manassas, Va., is employed as a representative for ITT Technical Institute, Chantilly, Va. ✦ **Melissa (Hart) Hawkins**, Stow, Ohio, has earned the teaching profession's top certification by achieving National Board Certification in 2005. Hawkins teaches at Streetsboro City Schools, Streetsboro, Ohio. ✦ **Margaret (Hassett) Moraczewski**, The Hills, Texas, is employed by Emmaus Catholic Parish as a faith formation assistant in Lakeway, Texas. ✦ **Brian Morrison**, Louisville, Ohio, is employed by Horsburgh & Scott as a manufacturing engineer in Cleveland,

Ohio. ✦ **Jeffrey Smith**, Chardon, Ohio, has been employed by Bialosky & Partners Architects for four years and was recently promoted to associate. ✦ **Kelly Wester**, Greensboro, N.C., is employed by the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in the Department of Counseling and Educational Development. Wester has just released a DVD and handbook titled *Conducting Research Responsibly: Cases for Counseling Professionals*.

'99

David Carline, M.B.A., Powell, Ohio, is a regional vice president at AIMCO in Denver, Colo. ✦ **Jodi (Silverling) Lowry**, Marietta, Ohio, is employed by Marietta Memorial Hospital as a nuclear medicine technologist. ✦ **Kelly Redmond**, Garfield Heights, Ohio, is a store manager at the Limited in Mentor, Ohio. ✦ **Andrew Shoenfeld**, Tallmadge, Ohio, is a third-year resident in orthopaedic sur-



2006 Homecoming Extravaganza Set for October 14

By Carli Cichocki, Kent State Public Relations Student

Plans are under way for the 2006 Homecoming Extravaganza on Oct. 14.

"We want to encourage alumni to mark their calendars and save the date to attend Homecoming this year," says Nancy Schiappa, '85, M.Ed. '90, associate director of alumni relations.

"We're looking forward to hosting alumni as well as engaging students, parents, community members, faculty and staff in all the fun and exciting activities."

As part of the festivities, members of the graduating Class of 1956 will celebrate their Golden Reunion and rededicate the Kent State archway, which stood over the entrance of Midway Drive until its removal three years ago. The archway was a gift from the Class of 1956 to the university. The arch will be resurrected over the newly finished walkway outside Bowman and Olsen halls and will be part of the new Esplanade, a scenic walkway that leads through the center of the Kent Campus.

And, as always, the annual Bowman Cup 5K race and the crowning of the 2006 Homecoming king and queen will be among the highlights of the weekend's activities.


As plans unfold, the most current schedule and listing of events will be posted to the alumni Web site at www.kent.edu/alumni. Also look for more information in the fall issue of *Kent State Magazine*. 



Photo by Bob Christy, '95



Photo by Sally Woodward, '83

ABOVE: Running back Luke Tillman breaks through the Navy defense during game action at Annapolis, Maryland. **LEFT:** During Homecoming 2006, the Class of 1956 will rededicate the Kent State archway, which stood over the entrance to Midway Drive until three years ago. The archway was a gift from the class.

ager, partner management at Upromise Inc. in Needham, Mass. ♦ **Amanda (Damuth) Gilbert**, Wyoming, Mich., is a school outreach worker at Arbor Circle Corp. in Grand Rapids, Mich. ♦ **Elizabeth (Guzzo) Given**, Chicago, Ill., is a due diligence analyst at First Industrial Realty Trust. ♦ **Lisa (Aichlmayr) Hockensmith**, Fairlawn, Ohio, has been promoted to reporter and Web coordinator for *Tire Business*, a Crain Communications publication. ♦ **Erica Kinser**, Cincinnati, Ohio, is a training coordinator for Cardinal Solutions Group. ♦ **Carrie L. Klusty**, Orlando, Fla., is employed as a staff nurse at Florida Hospital in Orlando on a multisystem progressive care unit. She has also obtained a certification as a Progressive Care Certified Nurse from the American Association of Critical-Care Nursing. ♦ **Marianne Luther**, M.Ed., Memphis, Tenn., was named director of residence life at Rhodes. ♦ **Timothy M. Mason**, Silver Spring, Md., is executive assistant with the Marijuana Policy Project in Washington, D.C. ♦ **Greg Novotny**, Hudson, Ohio, is currently working as a dentist. ♦ **James Patterson**, Vernon, Conn., is employed as the library director of the Jacob Edwards Library, Southbridge, Mass. ♦ **Richard Ryba**, Middleburg Heights, Ohio, is employed by Key Bank, Independence, Ohio, as the branch manager. *

'02

Brandi Bodnar, Russellton, Pa., is a senior communications specialist for Kaiser Permanente's Southern California regional offices. ♦ **Amber Jimenez**, San Pedro, Costa Rica, is a student administrator for Costa Rica Rainforest Outward Bound. ♦ **Justin Klos**, Wooster, Ohio, is employed as a team leader with Techni Graphic Systems in Wooster. ♦ **Marie McBee**, Cary, N.C., is employed by Forbo Adhesives as a financial

gery at Akron General Medical Center and a clinical instructor in orthopaedic surgery at the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine. He is active in research. Shoenfeld is the 2005 recipient of the Clinical Orthopaedic Society's National Resident Research Award and has been honored with the Order of Saint Andrew. ♦ **Robert Swedinovich**, Henderson, Nev., is working toward his juris doctorate degree at Southwestern University School of Law.

'00

David Basler, Creede, Colo.,

started his own publication called *Creede Magazine*. ♦ **Jessica Kichler**, Milwaukee, Wis., is a pediatric psychologist at the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. ♦ **Heather O'Hara**, Falls Church, Va., was recently promoted to promotion producer/editor with NBC's WRC in Washington, D.C. ♦ **Kristine Pachuta**, Hoboken, N.J., is employed as a senior contract negotiator at General Dynamics. ♦ **Jennifer Simpson**, Fairbanks, Alaska, is an administrative assistant for training for Tatonduk Outfitters Ltd. ♦ **Julie (Metham) Vojtko**, Stow, Ohio, is a program administrator

for new business for American Greetings in Cleveland, Ohio. *

'01

Manal Farhan, Chicago, Ill., teaches at Benjamin E. Mays Academy and has been selected to teach through UNITE (Urban Impact Through Education), serving children in under-resourced schools and communities. Farhan is pursuing an Illinois teaching certificate and a Master of Science in Education from Northwestern University's School of Education and Social Policy. ♦ **Patrick French**, Dorchester, Mass., is a man-



reporting specialist in Durham, N.C. ♦ **Bryan McKenzie**, M.Ed., Stow, Ohio, is employed by Streetsboro City Schools, Streetsboro, Ohio, and earned National Board Certification in 2005. McKenzie has been a teacher for 10 years. ♦ **Liz Remmel**, Akron, Ohio, is the principal/creative director of Immix Studio. ♦ **Kristofor Traenkner**, Fairfield, Ohio, is a consultant for Business Integration Group in Cincinnati, Ohio. ♦ ♦ **Ann Marie (Pinto) Wilson**, Sterling, Va., played the role of Nurse Ratched in a performance of the play *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* by Dale Wasserman. *

'03

Brian Davis, Twinsburg, Ohio, is a consumer banker for National City Bank in Chagrin Falls, Ohio. ♦ ♦ **Lara Marie DiDonato**, New Philadelphia, Ohio, is the Help Me Grow service coordinator with Personal & Family Counseling Service in New Philadelphia. ♦ **Robin Doerschuk** is employed by Alliance Staffing Solutions in Independence, Ohio, as a sales executive. ♦ **Roger Haynes**, B.A. '04, Philadelphia, Pa., is a budget analyst for the School District of Philadelphia. ♦

Arica Kress, Wickliffe, Ohio, is assistant director of marketing and promotions with the Columbus Crew, a major league soccer team in Columbus, Ohio. ♦ ♦ **Jennifer Lapso**, Columbus, Ohio, is employed as a program manager with the Ryan Partnership, a national marketing agency. *

♦ **Jianming Mao**, Ph.D., Redwood City, Calif., is vice president-portfolio manager at Franklin Templeton Investments in San Mateo, Calif. ♦ ♦ **Ryan James McCall**, Tampa, Fla., is a mortgage professional with Dollar Reality & Mortgage. ♦ **Andrea K. Mock**, Toledo, Ohio, has joined WNWO NBC 24 as the weekend news anchor and general assignment reporter. ♦ **Ryan Peters**, Ashland, Va., is employed by the Richmond Braves, Richmond, Va., in

gameday entertainment and promotions. ♦ **Christina Pultrone**, M.L.I.S., Lorain, Ohio, is a science librarian at NASA Glenn Research Center in Cleveland. ♦ **Carrie Reynolds**, Ravenna, Ohio, is employed by Newbury Local Schools as the band director. ♦ **Adam Ristow**, New York, N.Y., is a teacher with the New York City Department of Education. ♦ **Phil Salasek**, M.L.I.S., is employed at Jackson Local Schools, Massillon, Ohio, as a teacher. ♦ **JoEllen (Miller) Sanders**, B.B.A. '04, New Philadelphia, Ohio, is employed at Kent State Tuscarawas as a Small Business Development Center program assistant.

♦ **Sarah Schwendeman**, Cleveland Heights, Ohio, is employed by Bryant & Stratton College, Parma, Ohio, as an admissions representative. ♦ **Matthew Sullivan**, Columbus, Ohio, is employed by Sinclair Broadcasting in production. ♦ **Benjamin Tipton**, Phnom Penh, Cambodia, is a partnership program advisor for Mennonite Central Committee. ♦ **Eric Zupsansky**, Glendale, Ariz., is employed as a manager trainee with Hertz Corp. *

'04

Jaclyn Budzik, Akron, Ohio, is an assistant buyer for Sterling Jewelers. ♦ **Melissa Call**, Stow, Ohio, is employed by Kent State University Police Services as a dispatcher. ♦ **Phoebe Chan**, Brooklyn, N.Y., is assistant designer at WD NY in New York City. ♦ **Scott Douglas Cole**, Mentor, Ohio, is employed as a safety manager with the Lake County Commissioners office in Painesville. ♦ **Terina M. Cugliari**, Clinton, S.C., is an area coordinator with Presbyterian College. ♦ **Joseph Fetters**, M.M., Bel Air, Md., is a teacher with the Harford County School District. ♦ **Gary Ginther**, M.L.I.S., Pomeroy, Ohio, is a fine arts librarian/department head at Ohio University, Athens, Ohio. ♦ **Sarah Granville**, Barberton, Ohio, is a teen reference

librarian at the Barberton Public Library. ♦ **Ryan Henton**, Olmsted Falls, Ohio, is employed as a purchasing coordinator with American Greetings. ♦ ♦ **Annette (Ewing) McCann**, Omaha, Neb., is employed in pre-registration at Alegent Health Bergan Mercy Hospital. ♦ **Laureen (Kovar) Moore**, Parma Heights, Ohio, is employed by the U.S. Department of Labor in Cleveland, Ohio, as an investigator. ♦ ♦ **Katie Lynn Morgan**, Jackson, Tenn., is a photographer with *The Jackson Sun*.

♦ **Brian Naftzger**, Stow, Ohio, is employed as the marketing director for NexTec Group Inc. ♦ ♦ **Kristi O'Hara**, North Olmsted, Ohio, is an editorial assistant for *Smart Business Network* in Cleveland, Ohio.

* ♦ **Kelly Olson**, Hermitage, Tenn., is a community representative with the American Cancer Society in Nashville. ♦ **Leslie Osman**, Columbus, Ohio, is employed as a customer service representative for Stanley Electric in London, Ohio.

♦ **Kristen (Sickle) Raulie**, Medina, Ohio, is employed as a teacher at Black River Local Schools, Sullivan, Ohio. ♦ **Stephanie Siner**, Stow, Ohio, is employed by Squire, Sanders and Dempsey LLP in Cleveland as a paralegal-litigation. ♦ ♦ **Kimberly Slater**, Hinckley, Ohio, is an associate corporate communications specialist for Diebold in North Canton, Ohio.

* ♦ **Kim Toler**, Westerville, Ohio, is an auditor with HUD-OIG in Columbus. ♦ **Miranda Williams**, Loveland, Ohio, is employed by Luxottica Retail: EyeMed Vision Care in Mason, Ohio, as a marketing sales support specialist. ♦ **Richard Wisneski**, M.L.I.S., Perrysburg, Ohio, is an assistant professor at Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio. ♦ **Tiffany Woolfolk**, Cleveland, Ohio, is a career coach at Vocational Guidance Services.

'05

Liz Embick, M.Ed., Richmond, Ind., is employed as a career advisor at Earlham College. ♦ **Jackie Evers**, Willoughby, Ohio, is employed as a senior account manager at MBNA America. ♦ **Valerie Gilbert**, Verona, Wis., is employed as a laboratory technician for Lucigen Corporation. ♦ **Harmony Goldstein**, Brunswick, Ohio, is employed by Target in Medina, Ohio, as an executive team leader. ♦ **Julie Heathcote**, M.L.I.S., Charlotte, N.C., is an information specialist at the Public Library of Charlotte. ♦ **Douglas Holbert**, Brunswick, Ohio, is a network administrator for Carousel Dinner Theatre in Akron. ♦ **Danny Jacob**, Kent, Ohio, is a business analyst with First Energy in Akron. ♦ **Kristen Lintz**, North Royalton, Ohio, is a graphic designer for ST&P Communications. ♦ **Katy (Pederson) Mavis**, M.Ed., West Des Moines, Iowa, is a school counselor with Waukegan community schools. ♦ **Abby (West) Patterson**, Uhrichsville, Ohio, is an intervention specialist for Dover City Schools, Dover, Ohio. ♦ **Peter Reynolds**, Fairport, N.Y., is an IT recruiter for TEK Systems in Pittsford, N.Y. ♦ ♦ **Jessica Schmidt**, Palatine, Ill., is employed by H & M, Vernon Hills, Ill., as a visual merchandiser. ♦ **Kim Schneider**, Lakewood, Ohio, is employed as an editorial assistant for *Cleveland Magazine*. ♦ **Aaron Solomon**, Blacklick, Ohio, is the owner services account manager of NetJets. ♦ ♦ **Katherine Tenaglia**, Brookpark, Ohio, is employed by Sherwin Williams in Cleveland as a customer service specialist. ♦ **Anne Wilson**, Somerville, Mass., is the assistant director of marketing and PR for Health Fitness Corp. ♦ **Carrie Wissinger**, M.Ed., Wooster, Ohio, is an admissions counselor at the Ohio State University Agricultural Research and Development Center in Wooster.



LOSSES

IN THE KSU FAMILY

The following alumni have recently passed away:

- '45**
Lillian M. Sokoll, Richfield, Ohio, August 2005.
- '47**
William G. Akers, Chagrin Falls, Ohio, August 2004.
- '48**
Joy B. Gerber, Kidron, Ohio, June 2005. ✦ **William R. Gluvna**, Cleveland, Ohio, January 2005. ✦ **Fred J. Watson**, Ford City, Pa., July 2005.
- '49**
Patricia M. Ashton, Castaic, Calif., May 2005. ✦ **John M. Bandi**, Willoughby, Ohio, February 2005.
- '50**
George Breckner, Youngstown, Ohio, February 2005. ✦ **Paul H. Gramlich**, Akron, Ohio, July 2005. ✦ **Raymond M. Hyser**, Harrisonburg, Va., October 2005.
- '52**
Arne R. Somppi, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, May 2005.
- '53**
Sennett C. Evans, Youngstown, Ohio, October 2005.
- '55**
Harry R. Powell, Louisville, Ohio, September 2005.
- '58**
James K. Mallo, Akron, Ohio, October 2005. ✦ **John B. (Jack) Reese**, Manitou Springs, Colo., October 2005.
- '59**
Frank Lopane, Akron, Ohio, November 2005. ✦ **Howard R. Piccus**, Solon, Ohio, May 2005. ✦ **Raymond G. Verba**, Avon Lake, Ohio, May 2005.
- '60**
David W. Brown, Stow, Ohio, October 2005.
- '61**
Richard D. Holmes, Wooster, Ohio, November 2004. ✦ **Bro. Robert Kraft**, Troy, Ohio, September 2005. ✦ **Chloris O. Smith**, Leland, N.C., August 2005.
- '63**
John C. Wilkinson, Elyria, Ohio, August 2005.
- '64**
Dennis Monos, Lorain, Ohio, July 2005.
- '65**
June S. Roeble, Port Saint Lucie, Fla., October 2005. ✦ **Jack A. Venen**, Kirtland, Ohio, August 2005.
- '66**
Howard U. Maxwell, Euclid, Ohio, July 2005. ✦ **Mary I. Waller**, Lebanon, Tenn., November 2004.
- '67**
Sandra M. Moore, Tallmadge, Ohio, October 2005. ✦ **Dorothy J. Oney**, Cincinnati, Ohio, 2005. ✦ **L. Madaline Pope**, Mount Vernon, Ind., March 2005. ✦ **Richard Saccamano**, Youngstown, Ohio, October 2005. ✦ **Sadie M. Welch**, Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio, August 2005.
- '68**
Margaret J. Alvarez, Canton, Ohio. ✦ **Stephen J. Botos**, Saint Clairsville, Ohio, December 2004.
- '69**
Florence Walker Anderson, Novi, Mich., January 2005. ✦ **Roy L. Hagedorn**, Westlake, Ohio, August 2005.
- '71**
Carolyn M. Koepp, Elyria, Ohio, September 2005.
- '72**
Martha C. Taylor, Austinburg, Ohio, September 2004.
- '76**
Joseph T. Savelle, Saline, Mich., October 2005.
- '77**
James D. Stump, Mason, Ohio.
- '85**
Betty R. Ward, Cleveland, Ohio, December 2004.
- '89**
Susan K. Friedrich, Beverly Hills, Calif., September 2004.
- '91**
Julie A. Babb, Stow, Ohio, October 2005.
- '93**
Roderick S. Barclay, Plano, Texas, June 2005.

It's Time to Nominate Distinguished Teachers

By Jahel Guerra Roa, Kent State Journalism Student

If you have a favorite teacher — someone who has helped you in the classroom or in your career — now is the time to nominate him or her for the 2006 Distinguished Teaching Award.

Sponsored by the Kent State Alumni Association, the Distinguished Teaching Award honors tenure-track faculty and is one of the university's most prestigious honors. Students, alumni, faculty and staff have until June 30 to nominate tenure-track faculty for the recognition.

Nominees must have been teaching at any Kent State

campus for at least seven years, and they may not be previous DTA recipients.

To nominate a tenure-track faculty member for the 2006 awards, please go to www.kent.edu/alumni/getinvolved/dta.cfm.

Winners will be announced as part of the Celebrating College Teaching conference held this fall. In addition to the recognition of being a distinguished teacher, winners will receive a crystal apple and \$1,500.

For more information, call the Alumni Association at 330-672-5368 or toll-free 1-888-320-5368.



Life Members

of the Kent State University Alumni Association

The Kent State University Alumni Association strives to support the mission of Kent State University and provide its members with benefits and services. As space permits, *Kent State Magazine* will acknowledge new and current life members of the association. A partial list has appeared in each issue since spring 2004; additional names will appear in future issues. A complete list of life members can be found at www.ksualumni.org. For information on becoming a life member of the alumni association, call 330-672-KENT or toll free at 1-888-320-KENT.

B. Denise Adams, Roxbury, Conn.
 Suzanne Adams, Aurora, Ohio
 Bruce Alexander, Bloomfield Hills, Mich.
 Kathleen Alexander, Bloomfield Hills, Mich.
 Mary Allen-Huffman, North Canton, Ohio
 John Arnsby, Toledo, Ohio
 Leah Babb, Streetsboro, Ohio
 Sherry Bacon-Graves, Leavittsburg, Ohio
 James Bailey, North Olmsted, Ohio
 James Bailey, Ravenna, Ohio
 Kelly Bailey, North Olmsted, Ohio
 John Bakalar, Kent, Ohio
 Philip Belzunce Ph.D., Rocky River, Ohio
 Jennifer Bernat, West Lafayette, Ind.
 Jean Berry, Canton, Ohio
 Pamela Bevan, Westerville, Ohio
 Wayne Bragg CLU, Los Angeles, Calif.
 Constance Brent, North Ridgeville, Ohio
 Richard Brent, North Ridgeville, Ohio
 Paul Brooks, Hiram, Ohio
 Thomas Browne, Chagrin Falls, Ohio
 Burwell Buchanan, Kill Devil Hills, N.C.
 Sara Burky, Uniontown, Ohio
 Sandra Busler, Carrollton, Ohio
 Elsie Butts, Hampton, Va.
 Valarie Campbell CPA, Warren, Ohio
 Lori Cantor, Ravenna, Ohio
 Thomas Caruth, Kent, Ohio
 Carol Chamberlain, Hudson, Ohio
 Gail Cheslock, Akron, Ohio
 Leonard Cheslock, Akron, Ohio
 Linda Christopher R.N., Lake Milton, Ohio
 Marya Cline, Kent, Ohio
 Robert Cohen, Dover, Ohio
 Nancy Cottle, Mesa, Ariz.
 Lynne Crawford, Stow, Ohio
 Ilona Daw-Krizman, Chardon, Ohio
 Jodi Dearth, Benton Ridge, Ohio
 Eric Dicken, Cleveland, Ohio
 Kellee Disbro, North Hollywood, Calif.
 Ruth Dhwgosh, Youngstown, Ohio
 John Elliot, Charleston, W.Va.
 Eugenia Erdmann, Raleigh, N.C.
 David Evans, Kent, Ohio
 James Evans, Munroe Falls, Ohio
 Paula Evans, Kent, Ohio
 Raymond Falcione, Rockville, Md.
 John Feotis, Salt Lake City, Utah
 Barry Fetterman, Bainbridge Island, Wash.
 Jo Ann Fetterman, Bainbridge Island, Wash.
 Jay Firzlaff, Kent, Ohio
 James Flynn Sr., Maumee, Ohio
 Sandra Forsythe, Silver Spring, Md.
 Steven Forsythe, Silver Spring, Md.
 Carol Freeman, Baltimore, Md.
 Ricki Lee Gafter, San Jose, Calif.
 Gary Gale, Hayden, Idaho

Amil Garcia, Louisville, Ohio
 Eric Gardner, Berea, Ohio
 Jeanne Glenn, Deland, Fla.
 Linda Gonzalez, Cleveland, Ohio
 Kenneth Gozur, Davie, Fla.
 Harold Graves, Hinckley, Ohio
 Lalei Gutierrez Ph.D., Rocky River, Ohio
 Charles Halfhill, Kitty Hawk, N.C.
 Emmajeane Halfhill, Kitty Hawk, N.C.
 Mark Halfhill, Chesapeake, Va.
 Thomas Halfhill, Burlingame, Calif.
 Laurence Hallewell, Reynoldsburg, Ohio
 Douglas Hanzel, Savannah, Ga.
 Nancy Hanzel, Savannah, Ga.
 Julia Harber, Ravenna, Ohio
 C. Earl Harris Jr., Youngstown, Ohio
 Judy Harrold, Orangeburg, S.C.
 Mark Haueter, Bolivar, Ohio
 Jacqueline Herrmann, Smithfield, Va.
 Harold Hootman, Wheaton, Ill.
 Diane Hoover, Alliance, Ohio
 Michael Hoover, Alliance, Ohio
 Robert Hyde, Ravenna, Ohio
 Mary Jaeger, Corpus Christi, Texas
 Daniel Johnson, Grandville, Mich.
 Mary Kannam, Canton, Ohio
 Eula Keaton, Elizabethtown, Pa.
 John Kennelly, Norfolk, Va.
 Karl Kessler, North Olmsted, Ohio
 E. Sallie Kilgore, Stow, Ohio
 Frank Klein, Akron, Ohio
 M. Jane Klein, Akron, Ohio
 Thomas Kozlevcar, Cortland, Ohio
 Angela Langstaff, Kent, Ohio
 Jeffry Langstaff, Kent, Ohio
 John Laning, Winthrop, Maine
 Malinda Laning, Winthrop, Maine
 Charles Latham, Warren, Ohio
 Craig Latham, Cleveland, Ohio
 Kristen Latham, Cleveland, Ohio
 Priscilla Latham, Warren, Ohio
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 Charles McGuinness, Warren, Ohio
 Henry McGuire, Columbus, Ohio
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 Ruth McKay, Kent, Ohio
 Barbara McKee, Stow, Ohio
 Michael McKee, Seattle, Wash.
 Judy McKinstry, Canton, Ohio
 Larry McKinstry, Canton, Ohio
 James McKirahan Jr., The Villages, Fla.
 Lee McMannis, Hudson, Ohio
 Nancy McManus, Hudson, Ohio
 Becky McNeil, Kent, Ohio
 Richard McNeil, Kent, Ohio
 Deborah McNutt, Whitehouse, Ohio
 Bea McPherson, Hartsville, Ohio
 Daniel McVey, Parma, Ohio
 Helen Medley, Kent, Ohio
 Ruth Meek, Canton, Ohio
 Anita Meeker, Akron, Ohio
 David Meeker, Akron, Ohio
 Michael Meenan Sr., Wooster, Ohio
 Carolyn Mehl, Clinton, Ohio
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 Wayne Meland, Naples, Fla.
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 Judy Mendenhall, Kent, Ohio
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 Mary Mertic, Clinton, Ohio
 James Merz, Hilliard, Ohio
 Sharri Merz, Hilliard, Ohio
 Barbara Mesek, Fairlawn, Ohio



Building Success, One Student Ambassador at a Time

By Kimberly Thompson
Kent State Public Relations Student

Members of a very select student group have served as student trustees on Kent State University's Board of Trustees; some have been elected to the Undergraduate Student Senate; some have worked as resident assistants; and many have been on Homecoming court. Now, they hold positions ranging from CEOs to bank vice presidents to dentists. This prestigious group is the Kent State Student Ambassadors — represented by outstanding students with good grades, ambition and much Kent State pride.

The program, in existence since 1983, has more than 350 alumni living and working around the world, and many of those alumni say that serving as a student ambassador helped launch them into a successful career.

A competitive edge

"Being an ambassador teaches you how to be a professional," says *James Bailey*, '03, M.S. '04. "Through the program, you meet people who have accomplished quite a bit in their careers. You get to see how they hold themselves, what they expect of other people and how they expect events to run. You get to see how they work and what makes them successful."

Bailey says his first interview after college was in Chicago, and he went with four people who were also competing for the position. But Bailey says the company offered him the job, citing his interviewing skills as the deciding factor.

"Going through the ambassadors program helps you feel much more comfortable in situations with professionals than others would," Bailey says. "I was able to make it a casual talk instead of a formal interview."

Arica Kress, '03, a former Kent Student Ambassador president, agrees that networking with professionals was a major advantage. The ambassador program gives students an opportunity to interact with university administrators like President *Carol A. Cartwright*, Kress says.

Photo by Gary Harwood, '83



Varsity K Hall of Fame Inductee Ben Curtis, '00, talks with student ambassador Audra Godfrey at the induction ceremony in February.

A prestigious program

The Kent Student Ambassador program, sponsored by the Alumni Association, allows no more than 40 ambassadors at one time, so the number admitted each year depends on the number of outgoing ambassadors. This year, 23 ambassadors will be inducted in May to compensate for the 23 who are graduating.

The responsibilities of the students range from giving campus tours to alumni and other distinguished guests, to acting as greeters at the Founders Scholars Ball, says *Nancy Schiappa*, '85, M.Ed. '90, associate director of alumni relations.

Schiappa says ambassadors are chosen by academic performance, involvement at Kent State and enthusiasm about the program and university. The minimum GPA requirement is 2.75, but Schiappa says that in 2005, the average GPA was a 3.6.

Cherished memories, lasting relationships

Even more important than the professionals she met were the friends she made, Kress notes.

"Some of my closest friendships were made through student ambassadors," she says. "Many organizations had a lot of the same kind of people, but this organization was a real melting pot of different interests."


Bailey enjoyed the Student Ambassador program so much that he encouraged his high school sweetheart to participate. Bailey was already in the program, and he thought it would be a good match for her. *Kelly (Martig) Bailey*, '04, agreed, becoming a Student Ambassador — and later his wife. And the family relationship doesn't end there. James' sister, *Kate*, has been selected for membership.

Bailey says his favorite part about the program was being able to sit in the president's loge during basketball games, especially in 2002 when the men's basketball team made it to the Elite Eight.

Other former ambassadors agree the opportunity to be in the president's loge during football and basketball games was a fun experience.

"Our duties were to give the guests of the loge a feel for what Kent State was really like," says *Stephen "Skip" Begley*, '96. "If a board member wanted to get a pulse on the university, we let them know what students were seeing and hearing. That was definitely enjoyable, because the food was good, too."

But Begley says he enjoyed giving tours even more, because he saw it as a chance to share his knowledge and enthusiasm about the university. It was also a chance to hear stories from alumni about their experiences at Kent State.

For more information about the Kent Student Ambassadors, visit www.kent.edu/alumni/aboutus/ksa.cfm. 

Our School. Our Students. Our Future.

**When someone calls asking you to support The Annual Fund,
it may be an outstanding student like Lauren Mareno.**

In addition to taking a full course load, Lauren works 30 hours a week as a student supervisor in the KSU PhoneCenter. She also gives back by organizing an annual walkathon to benefit the American Cancer Society. Lauren lost her father to cancer just as she was beginning her freshman year at Kent State. Paying all of her own college expenses is a challenge, but fortunately Lauren receives scholarship support from the Honors College and the Kent Alumni Reach for Excellence Fund, which allows her to pursue a degree while volunteering for causes that are important to her and her family.

The Kent State University Annual Fund
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KENT STATE

MAGAZINE

Summer 2006

Visit www.kent.edu/ecalendar for a complete listing of summer events at Kent State's eight campuses.

KENT/BLOSSOM MUSIC

All performances are held at 7:30 p.m. in the Ludwig Recital Hall, Kent Campus.
<http://dept.kent.edu/blossom>

Miami String Quartet

with Jerry Wong, piano – July 5
with Joela Jones, piano – July 12

Kent/Blossom Faculty & Guests Chamber Music

Halim El-Dabh 85th
Birthday Celebration
July 19

Renaissance City Winds

July 26

Kent Blossom Faculty Chamber Music

August 2

Kent/Blossom Chamber Orchestra

Theodore Kuchar, conductor
August 9

PORTHOUSE THEATRE

All performances are held at the Porthouse Theatre, on the grounds of Blossom Music Center.
www.porthousetheatre.com

Dames at Sea

June 15–July 1

Our Town

July 6–22

Jesus Christ Superstar

July 27–August 13

Jesus Christ Superstar is
part of the summer 2006 season
at Porthouse Theatre.

Photo by Bob Christy, '95



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